

Medicinal Cannabis Submission

Pain Relief

At the age of 36 I had an accident working alone on my rural property which is located
Late in the afternoon on 31 July while
doing fence repairs I turned on one foot and ripped my quadriceps off my left kneecap falling
backwards, there was a noise like a rifle shot and I thought I had been shot in the leg the pain was so
excruciating. On looking my lower left leg was turned inwards and my kneecap was stuck outside the
line of my leg!

Fearing the worst, being stuck in a paddock in winter I had to quickly line my lower leg up and bash
my kneecap back into place. My thigh had instantly swollen and my leg could not bend. I had to get
back to my cabin & managed that after bandaging my leg with an elastic bandage kept in my 4wd.

At my cabin I had some marijuana and smoked equivalent to 3 cigarettes/joints to manage the pain
so I could heat water, cook, wash and clean myself up. It was freezing cold that night and I went to
bed hoping that I would feel better in the morning. I slept very well without pain.

I woke in the morning and a small movement of my leg was again excruciating. I smoked a bit more
and loaded my car, opened & closed 6 gates drove through a river and headed . I would
lift my left leg with my hand to operate the clutch and just let my foot slide off it to change gears. The
marijuana did not affect my driving skills, if anything it made me more cautious.

It took 6 months of recovery off work during which time I used marijuana during the day and
evening to help kill the pain and get a good night sleep. At night leg muscles would go into spasms
and wake me if I did not use it or use constant doses of codeine base pain killers which gave me
constipation.

Some years later after another accident I developed chronic migraines and for a number of years
again cannabis was the only thing that would enable me to sleep. A short course of benzodiazepines
worked but were very addictive. I still use this today and it is exclusively from home grown organic
herb. I believe it should be legal to grow for own use as hydroponic cannabis is full of chemicals.

A recent glaucoma diagnosis has me on eye drops. I was away at my farm using a vaporiser to use
cannabis and my eye drops had been left at home. On checking the eye pressures 3 days after
returning at the ophthalmologists my eye pressures were the lowest they have ever been, at a level
of 10. I advised them what I had been using.

I upheld a job administering taxation laws for 27 years and one of my cases is still the precedent for
stock valuation.