# CANNABIS 101

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# CANNABIS IN CANADA

#### A TIMELINE

• **2000** Landmark case in 2000 (John Conroy on MCRCI's Board)

• **June 2001** Marihuana Medical Access Regulations (MMAR) regulations passed by Health Canada in 2001.

- Marihuana Medical Access Regulations (MMAR) allowed patients to grow their own or purchase from government source.

- Health Canada implemented access program requiring MD authorization.

• **March 31, 2014** MMAR repealed but injunction exists whereby existing patients were grandfathered.

• **April 1, 2014** Marijuana for Medical Purposes Regulations (MMPR) replaces MMAR. (No personal production)

• **August 25, 2016** Access to Cannabis for Medicinal Purposes Regulations (ACMPR) replaces MMPR. (Personal production reintroduced)

### **TYPES OF CANNABIS**







INDICA



RUDERALIS



energy

stimulating

head high

cerebral

uplifting

creativity

focus

Fights depression

couch-lock

chilling

appetite

body high

deep relaxation

sleep aid

pain + nausea relief

stress + anxiety relief

### **DELIVERY METHODS:**

- Smoking
- Oral Ingestion
- Topical Treatment

### MEDICINAL USE OF CANNABIS:

• The Endocannabinoid System

#### • THC vs. CBD

- The Entourage Effect
- Symptoms & Ailments

Presynaptic

Cannabinoid

Receptor

#### The Endocannabinoid System

Brain cells (neurons) communicate with each other by sending chemical messages. The chemicals (neurotransmitters) cross a gap between neighboring neurons before attaching to their specific receptors.

#### Presynaptic:

The neuron sending a message by releasing a chemical when signaled to do so

#### Postsynaptic: The neuron receiving the message when its receptors are activated by specific chemicals (neurotransmitters)

Neurotransmitters: The chemical messengers that travel from one brain cell to another

**Receptors:** Activated by neurotransmitters, receptors trigger a set of events that allows a message to be passed along to other neurons

(sending neuron) usuormusmitters usuormusmitters Cannabinoids Receiptore Lipid Precursors (fat cells)

> Postsynaptic (receiving neuron)

Cannabinoids: Natural chemicals (anandamide and 2-AG) that bind to cannabinoid receptors in the brain and the body

THC: The main active ingredient in marijuana; THC, also a cannabinoid, interferes with the normal functioning of the endocannabinoid system

### THE ENTOURAGE EFFECT



• The entourage effect refers to the positive interaction of the almost 480 natural compounds unique to Cannabis sativa.

• This includes: 66 cannabinoids, 120 terpenes and a whole host of other potentially beneficial substances present in the whole plant which are removed when using isolated "pure" CBD.

• Products using whole plant extract can be almost an order of magnitude stronger than isolated CBD.

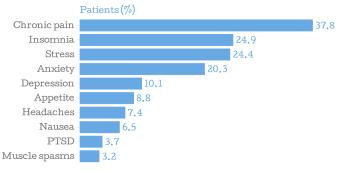
### 10 MAJOR HEALTH BENEFITS OF MARIJUANA





### PATIENT AILMENT PERCENTAGES

Primary Benefit of Using Medical Marijuana



Leaf Science

(Data: Bonn-Miller et al., 2013)

### ORAL HEALTH CONCERNS RELATED TO CANNABIS – A CASE STUDY



**Figure 5** - Case 2: Anterior view. Note the enlarged and erythematous gingival margins. Maxillary attached gingiva has a nodular or "pebbly" appearance.



Figure 7 - Case 2: Enlarged and erythematous uvula.

### ACCESSING MEDICINAL CANNABIS IN CANADA

Medicinal Cannabis Resource Centre Inc. (MCRCI) assists patients by:

• Arranging meeting with qualified practitioner with expertise in cannabis and cannabis-derived medicines;

• Guiding them through process of becoming legal users in accordance with Health Canada's Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations (MMPR);

 Providing information and advice and ongoing support and follow-up on marijuana as medicine; and

• Assisting patients in choosing a legal source of medical grade marijuana.

## For more information please contact MCRCI

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