

Opioid Epidemic: Can Medical Marijuana Help?

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Abstract

How do cannabis and opioids work together? What are we seeing in the clinic and how can we explain what we're seeing? Opioid and cannabinoid receptors are both present in pain areas of the brain. Receptors can be thought of as keyholes. And when the drug – the cannabinoid or the opioid – comes in, it fits into the receptor and it has some effect on the cell, changing its physiology. Opioid and cannabinoid receptors are also both present in other areas of the brain that have to do with addiction and behavior. We know that these receptors talk to each other. And researchers have found that administering opioids and cannabis together results in a greater-than-additive anti-pain effect.

Biography:

Terrence Started his career after college in Wall Street where is worked for 15 years. He decided to change careers and went back to school for respiratory therapy. Terrence has been in the field of Respiratory therapy since 1992. He is formerly the Education Coordinator of University Hospital (formerly UMDNJ) in Newark New Jersey since June 2000 and retired from the position after 25 years in September 2017. He is an expert in adult, pediatric, and neonatal critical care. He has extensive knowledge in speaking at conferences locally and nationally. He is the owner of two companies that offer continuing education to nurses, respiratory therapist, and other health care practitioners (A & T Respiratory Lectures LLC and ATECAM LLC). He has been practicing Ayurvedic medicine for many years and obtained a Master's of Science in Complementary and Alternative Medicine at the American College of Health Sciences of Portland Oregon. He has extensive speaking knowledge on nutrition, herbal medicine, medical cannabis, and Aromatherapy. Terrence experience in both traditional medicine and integrative medicine. He utilizes his experience in traditional medicine to critique evidence-based practices in integrative holistic medicine.

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