Epilepsy

The causes of epilepsy remain unknown in about half of all cases. However, recent discoveries have revealed an intercellular signalling system involving the brain's cannabinoid receptors. Activation of these receptors has been implicated in helping to explain the anticonvulsant properties of cannabinoids.[1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

Cannabidiol (CBD), which along with THC is the cannabinoid currently receiving the most attention for medical applications, has shown particular promise in reducing the frequency and severity of seizures.[6] CBD has the added advantage of having minimal psychoactive effects, which may facilitate treatment for children.

"Preliminary, uncontrolled clinical studies suggest that cannabidiol may have antiepileptic effects in humans."[7]

- E. Gordon

"The concept that the endogenous cannabinoid system is activated on demand suggests that a promising strategy to alleviate seizure frequency is the enhancement of endocannabinoid levels by inhibiting the cellular uptake and the degradation of these endogenous compounds."[6]

- B. Lutz

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