

## Multiple Sclerosis

Studies support the effectiveness of cannabis in treating a number of symptoms associated with MS, including pain and muscle spasticity<sup>1</sup>. In addition, patients have reported improvement in quality of life when treated with the cannabinoid derivative, dronabinol.<sup>2</sup>

Animal studies reveal, "THC has been shown to inhibit both clinical and histologic experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis (EAE), it may prove to be a new and relatively innocuous agent for the treatment of immune-mediated diseases."<sup>3</sup>

"Smoked cannabis was superior to placebo in symptom and pain reduction in participants with treatment-resistant spasticity.<sup>1</sup>

### - **J. Corey-Bloom et al.**

"Oral dronabinol reduced central pain in patients with multiple sclerosis. Spontaneous pain intensity was reduced and pain relief was higher during dronabinol treatment than during placebo treatment, pressure evoked pain tended to decrease, and the patients tended to score better in the bodily pain domain of the health related quality of life questionnaire."<sup>2</sup>

### - **K. B. Svendsen et al.**

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1. Corey-Bloom, J., Wolfson, T., Gamst, A., Jin, S. et al. Smoked cannabis for spasticity in multiple sclerosis: a randomized, placebo-controlled trial. *CMAJ* 2012 184:1143-1150.
  2. Svendsen, K. B., Jensen, T. S., and Bach, F.W. Does the cannabinoid dronabinol reduce central pain in multiple sclerosis? Randomised double blind placebo controlled crossover trial. *BMJ* 2004 329:253-260.
  3. Lyman, W. D., Sonett, J. R., Brosnan, C. F., Elkin, R. and others. Delta 9-tetrahydrocannabinol: a novel treatment for experimental autoimmune encephalomyelitis. *J. Neuroimmunol.* 1989 23:73-