



SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

September 2020

What are cannabinoids?

Countries are increasingly allowing cannabinoids (tetrahydrocannabinol [THC] and cannabidiol [CBD]) to be made available for medicinal purposes, including for the treatment of mental disorders. Medicinal cannabis refers to any part of the cannabis plant, such as flowers, buds, leaves, or full plant extracts. Pharmaceutical cannabinoids refer to pharmaceutical-grade medicinal extracts with defined and standardised THC, CBD, or a combination of both, and synthetic cannabinoid derivatives.

What is the evidence for cannabinoids as treatments for schizophrenia?

Moderate to low quality evidence finds no improvement in overall and positive symptoms with adjunctive CBD or THC compared to placebo. Negative and cognitive symptoms may worsen with adjunctive THC.



NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) is one of the largest independent medical and clinical research institutes in Australia and an international leader in neurological research.

Diseases of the brain and nervous system pose the greatest health, economic and social burden of any disease group because they are chronic, debilitating and have no known cures.

Medical research is the cornerstone of efforts to advance the health and wellbeing of families and the community. Our dedicated scientists are focussed on transforming their research into significant and practical benefits for all patients.

While we hope you find this information useful, it is always important to discuss any questions about schizophrenia or its treatment with your doctor or other health care provider.

For more information see the technical table

HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

We are able to make significant advances due to the generosity of countless people. Your donation allows us to continue to work towards transforming lives. For information on how you can support our research, phone 1300 888 019 or make a secure donation at neura.edu.au/donate/schizophrenia.