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SCHIZOPHRENIA Factsheet

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What is cannabidiol?

The plant *cannabis sativa* contains over 70 different constituents, including tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD), which are the most concentrated substances found in cannabis extracts. Recreational cannabis use during adolescence is a well documented risk factor for schizophrenia, particularly cannabis with high THC content. While THC induces symptoms in healthy volunteers that resemble psychosis, CBD interferes with the detrimental actions of THC in terms of psychotic proneness. Therefore, there is potential for CBD to act as an antipsychotic agent.

What is the evidence for cannabidiol?

Low quality evidence is unable to determine the benefits of cannabidiol for the symptoms of schizophrenia.

For more information see the technical table



NeuRA

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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.

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.

NeuRA (Neuroscience Research Australia) Foundation
T 1300 888 019 F +61 2 9399 1082
ABN 57 008 429 961

Margarete Ainsworth Building
Barker Street, Randwick NSW 2031
PO Box 1165 Randwick Sydney NSW 2031 Australia

neura.edu.au