

What's THC?

THC stands for Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol. It's the most prevalent active ingredient in cannabis, and can be an essential part of medicinal cannabis therapy.

How is THC different to CBD?

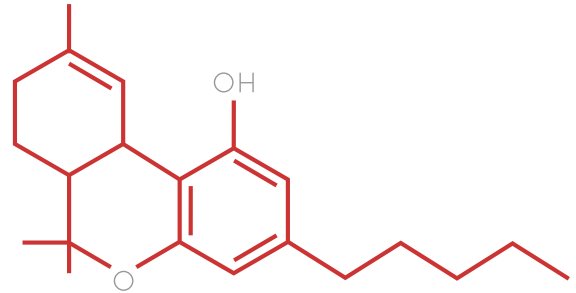
Unlike THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol), CBD (Cannabidiol) is a non-psychoactive cannabinoid compound. While CBD is a component of the marijuana plant, by itself it does not cause a "high". THC interacts directly to nerves in the brain and, because of this, can be considered psychoactive. However, this is dose dependant and can be mitigated through a medical technique called microdosing. Furthermore, in medicinal cannabis, prescribers will often include CBD in a patient's treatment plan, which blocks THC's ability to interact with the brain, once again mitigating the psychoactive potential. In other words, when taking THC medicinally, it is possible to feel the results of THC, without feeling the "high".

The bottom line

Through microdosing, or adding CBD to mitigate psychoactivity, THC is an extremely important part of cannabis medicine and can provide multiple therapeutic benefits to patients. However, because THC contains psychoactive properties that can possibly alter one's behaviour and mood, and potentially cause sleepiness and sedation, there are roadside restrictions surrounding THC use.

Delta-9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)

Psychoactive



Potential medical benefits of THC

THC is a psychotropic cannabinoid compound with many possible medicinal benefits. THC can be used as an analgesic, or pain reliever, an appetite stimulant, an anti-nausea medication also referred to as an antiemetic, a muscle relaxant due to its antispasmodic properties, as well as a sedative when sourced from certain chemovars or strains.

Additionally, as mentioned, THC can be responsible for the euphoric effect, which can hold a valuable place in managing certain types of conditions such as depression, or palliation.

References

1. https://www.who.int/medicines/access/controlled-substances/5.2_CBD.pdf