

**A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT RELEASED BY
THE JOURNAL OF CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY
ON THE
CLINICAL CONSEQUENCES OF MARIJUANA USE**

Published with its Nov. 2002 issue, with 16 articles by distinguished researchers

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THOUSAND OAKS CA USA -- MEDICAL INDUSTRY E-MAIL NEWS SERVICE(TM) -- OCT. 21, 2002 --- *The Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*, one of the world's preeminent journals on drug discovery, delivery, and metabolism, especially in pediatric, elderly, and other special populations, announced today the publication with its Nov. 2002 issue of a special supplement on the Clinical Consequences of Marijuana.

While most studies deal with the psychosocial consequences of marijuana use, this supplement addresses how marijuana use affects the central nervous, pulmonary/respiratory, cardiovascular, renal, hepatic, endocrine, reproductive, and immune systems. Almost 14 million Americans, or 6.3% of the population age 12 or older, admit to illegal drug use, with marijuana being the most commonly used illicit drug (*National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, Main Findings 2002*, US Dept of Health & Human Services).

RESEARCH SUGGESTS SUBTLE EFFECTS ON MANY PHYSIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

Based on a workshop held Aug. 13-14, 2001 that was organized and supported by the Center on AIDS & Other Medical Consequences of Drug Abuse, within the National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health (NIH), the research suggests that marijuana use has many subtle effects on major physiological systems. These include temporary cognitive function impairment, increased heart rate, increased prevalence of chronic cough and acute bronchitis, inhibition of the secretion of gonatrophins from the pituitary glands, lower sperm count/ fertility incidence, and increased neurobehavioral anomalies for children exposed *in utero*.

GLOBAL MEDICAL EXPERTS

The 16 articles are edited by Jag H. Khalsa, PhD, Sander Genser, MD, MPH, and Henry Francis MD, all of the Center on AIDS & Other Medical Consequences of Drug Abuse (CAMCODA), and Billy Martin, PhD, of Virginia Commonwealth University. Noted authors include Margaret Haney (Columbia University), Harrison Pope (Harvard School of Medicine/McLean Hospital), Rafael Mechoulam (Hebrew University), Reese Jones (University of California, San Francisco), Peter Fried (Carleton University), and Adrian Dobs (Johns Hopkins University), as well as other distinguished researchers.

TOPICS

The articles cover a wide range of important topics, including

- ◆ The role of cannabinoids receptors in health
- ◆ Neurocognitive function and neuropsychiatric performance
- ◆ Cardiopulmonary/respiratory consequences (especially in older adults with previous cardiovascular disease, or patients with compromised immune systems from cancer and related chemotherapy or HIV disease)
- ◆ Endocrine, reproductive, immunologic and developmental effects

- ◆ Marijuana withdrawal syndrome in animal models
- ◆ Treatment of marijuana complications
- ◆ The carcinogenic potential of marijuana.

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