

Opioids vs Cannabis for 8 Types of Pain: Which One works Better?*

Opioids

VS

Cannabinoids

CENTRAL PAIN NEUROPATHIES (e.g., Spinal Cord Injuries, Parkinson's Disease)

Grade: C

Grade: B- (cannabis chemotype range I–III)

PERIPHERAL PAIN NEUROPATHIES (e.g., Diabetic Neuropathies, Shingles)

Grade: C-

Grade: B (cannabis chemotype range II, with minor evidence for I)

ACUTE PAIN (e.g., Post-surgery)

Grade: A-

Grade: C- (cannabis chemotype range not applicable)

CHRONIC PAIN (e.g., Back, Migraines)

Grade: C

Grade: B (cannabis chemotype range I–III)

NOCICEPTIVE or NOXIOUS PAIN (e.g., Bruises, Burn, Cold, Splinters)

Grade: A- in acute self-limiting injuries, Grade B: in cases of chronic pain

Grade B- (cannabis chemotype range I–II)

INFLAMMATORY PAIN (ex. Psoriasis flare-up, Microbial Infections)

Grade: C

Grade: A- (cannabis chemotype range I–III)

PATHOLOGICAL PAIN i.e., pain that outlives its usefulness as warning sign (e.g., MS)

Grade: C-

Grade: B (cannabis chemotype I)

MENTAL-EMOTIONAL PAIN (e.g., Grief) Not enough evidence for a grade, however...

Helps forget about it temporarily but does not change the cause.

Can set the stage for exploration and revelation. Can make intolerable emotions OK. May assist in resolution. (cannabis chemotype range I–III)

Possible Rating Range: poor (C-), poor–possible (C), possible (B-), possible–good (B), good (A-)

A Quick Review of Cannabis Chemotypes (CT): A CT I contains more THC than CBD. A CT II contains relative equal amounts (practically speaking in a range between 4:1 to 1:4 THC:CBD), and a CT III contains more CBD than THC (more information on cannabis CT)

*Uwe Blesching Ph.D. (2018) Breaking the Cycle of Opioid Addiction: Supplement Your Pain Management With Cannabis by Uwe Blesching. North Atlantic Books. Berkeley, California.