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### **Cannabis and the future of pain management: A review of the current clinical evidence**

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The medical use of cannabis has become increasingly topical trends around the world towards legislation permitting its recreational use. Cannabis has been used for medical purposes for centuries with its use being traced back to ancient China and India, for example in this presentation, the physiological basis of the use of cannabis for pain management will be reviewed. It is known that cannabis interacts with the endocannabinoid system and via interactions with cannabinoid receptors (CB1, CB2) it can affect analgesia as well as immune function. The variety of conditions for which cannabis use is being used in medical contexts will also be reviewed, but with an emphasis on its role in pain management. The literature surrounding the use of cannabis for acute and chronic pain management will be reviewed and as well as typical side effects and caveats. Practical guidelines regarding the prescription of cannabis for pain conditions will also be discussed.

#### **Biography**

Vladko Pelivanov is an Anesthesiologist and Pain Physician who was born and raised in Skopje, North Macedonia, EU. He graduated from the University of Saints Cyril and Methodius, including his residency training in Anesthesiology. He subsequently moved to Canada with his family and completed his anesthesiology residency training at the University of Saskatchewan in 2014. He did fellowship training in chronic pain management before taking on an academic position with the Department of Anesthesiology, Pain Management and Perioperative Medicine at Dalhousie University in 2015. His clinical interests lie in general anesthesia and acute and chronic pain management.

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