

CANNABIS/MARIJUANA – GOOD OR BAD FOR HEALTH ISSUES

Compiled by Charles (Chuck) Maack – Prostate Cancer Activist/Mentor

So far, most all research/studies continues to leave use of cannabis for prostate cancer as well as other cancers/ailments in the air as something that requires further research, study, and testing. There are no absolute conclusions on humans in these papers.

I've been aware of cannabis having attributes that could have a significant effect on reining in cancer. Problem is getting the product to trial wherein big-business will be interested only if they can make a huge profit. Trials cost several million bucks and this research, though very promising, may get stalled if there isn't any return in profit for those who could otherwise support such trials.

Despite all I have read, I doubt we can conclude that cannabis can "cure" prostate cancer. Aid in its slowing growth? Yes. Aid in comforting painful side effects? Yes. But absolute "cure?" At least to date, doubtful.

Since the subject of Cannabis/Marijuana continues to come up, here are a couple pro's and con's from my files to consider:

Pro:

Cannabis has been found to have an anti-tumor effect and can be therapeutic for pain.

"What is obvious is that certain societal misgivings about the use and abuse of psychotropic drugs is getting in the way of research, development and proper public health policy. The current government's ignorance of the positive findings at the Safe-injection Site in Vancouver, the probable prosecution of (name removed) should he return to Canada, and the continued illegality of marijuana despite public pressure to decriminalize it, all are hot-potatoes, politically, and may be impeding the availability of funding to properly study cannabis. In the mean time, advocates like (name removed) are not helping matters by making wild claims using anecdotal evidence. (Name removed) and his followers, which appear to be many, do have something: there is a lot of very interesting research. However we need science to help us navigate the hyperbole, and making claims for all-powerful wonder cures only ensures greater confusion in the matter."

But I'll follow the foregoing with a couple papers I have on file:

This is interesting provided me in 2009 by advocate/mentor Jacquie Strax and administrator of the website www.psa-rising.com regarding the law:

The Obama administration has changed Federal policies on regulation of medical marijuana use under state law.

<http://www.psa-rising.com/blog/2009/10/feds-halt-medical-marijuana-prosectutions/>

There are several papers in this regard on her website; see:
<http://tinyurl.com/p868ytr>

The new guidelines order federal drug agents to stop arresting or charging patients, caregivers or suppliers who are dispensing, buying or using marijuana for medical purposes allowed by state law.

ANOTHER PRO:

Cannabinoids and the skeleton: From marijuana to reversal of bone loss

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19634029>

ANOTHER PRO:

Marijuana proven effective in treating different types of cancers

<http://www.hemp.org/news/marijuana-proven-effective-fighting-cancers>

BUT, WHOOPS, WHAT ABOUT THIS CON:

[Cannabis smoke damages DNA – cancer risks](#)

Or try: <http://tinyurl.com/m2pm83>

So, if you live in a state that authorizes Marijuana for medical purposes, you (with your physician) be the judge of whether this might be good – or harmful.