

COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES FOR  
IMPROVING YOUR PERI-OPERATIVE  
PAIN MANAGEMENT AND  
EXPANDING YOUR GERIATRIC  
CHRONIC PAIN CASE MANAGEMENT

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**Elanco**™

OBJECTIVES

- Different aspects of perioperative pain management
- Chronic pain management with focus on OA in geriatric pets
- Introducing Canadian OA treatment guidelines
- The role of cannabinoids in pain management
- Learning goals:
  - Add aspects of perioperative pain management that are outside the usual box
  - Understand different OA treatment options in senior pets including the palliative stage
  - Understand the role of endocannabinoid system in pain

PERIOPERATIVE PAIN MANAGEMENT



PERIOPERATIVE PAIN ASPECTS

- Pain has different components that may contribute to individual's sensation
- What can we do to improve the perioperative experience for our pets
  - Preoperative stress relief
  - Perioperative pain control
  - Postoperative stress and pain relief

PRE-OPERATIVE STRESS RELIEF



## STRESS

- The link between stress/anxiety and pain

Depression and Anxiety in Pain

Adrian KM Woo MB BS FRCA  
Clinical and Research Fellow, St James'

Depression and Anxiety / Volume 26, Issue 10 / p. 888-901

Theoretical Review

Understanding the co-occurrence of anxiety disorders and chronic pain: state-of-the-art

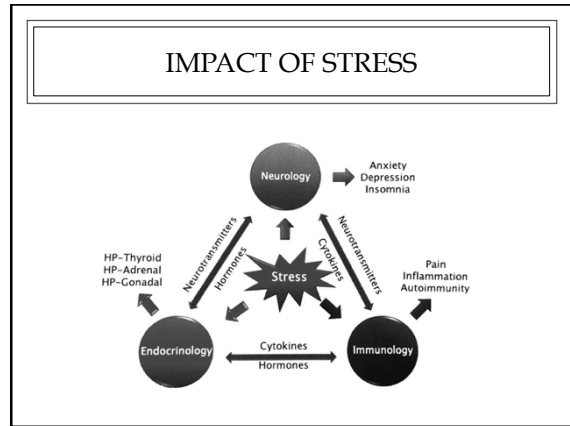
Gordon J.G. Asmundson Ph.D. Joel Katz Ph.D.

First published: 18 August 2009  
https://doi.org/10.1002/da.20600  
Citations: 393

Condition Center Home > Research

### Uncovering the Connection Between Anxiety and Pain

—Expression of the neuropeptide PACAP is increased in animal models of chronic pain and causes anxiety-like behavior. Blocking the PACAP receptor could provide a therapeutic target for chronic pain and anxiety.



## IMPACT OF STRESS

Stress

- Increased sympathetic tone
- Increased requirements of anesthesia
- Increased pain experience
- Worsen recovery
- Make things more difficult for next clinic visit
- Decreased wound healing

## ANXIOUS PATIENTS

- Consider personality & history of patient before coming to clinic
  - Personality of pet
  - Breed
  - Age (senior-blind?)
  - History of clinic visits
  - Owner's personality

## STRESS

- How do we reduce stress in our surgical patients?
  - Fear Free handling
    - Calm environment
    - Cozy kennels with blanket
    - 'Less is more' approach
      - Less people, less restraint, less rectal temperature taking
      - More sedation
  - Anxiolytic agents

## ANXIOLYTIC AGENTS

- Trazadone
  - Anxiolytic due to serotonin reuptake inhibition
  - Alleviate stress & anxiety associated with travel, veterinary visits, hospitalization
  - 3-8mg/kg PO dogs or 50mg/cat PO
  - Onset 10- 20min without food, a little longer with food or pill pocket
  - 5mg/kg the night before the veterinary visit, 8-10mg/kg the morning of

**Effects of trazadone on behavioral signs of stress in hospitalized dogs**

Shana E. Gilbert-Gregory 1910  
Jason W. Smith 1910  
Mary Rose Reid 1910  
Miguel E. Morera 1910

**OBJECTIVE**  
To determine the effects of trazadone treatment on behavior signs in hospitalized dogs.

**DESIGN**  
Prospective observational study.

**Efficacy of a single dose of trazadone hydrochloride given to cats prior to veterinary visits to reduce signs of transport- and examination-related anxiety**

Bonnie J. Brown 1910  
Eric M. Proulx 1910  
Jill M. Graciele 1910  
Brenda Gifford 1910

**OBJECTIVE**  
To determine the efficacy of a single dose of trazadone for reducing anxiety in hospitalized cats.


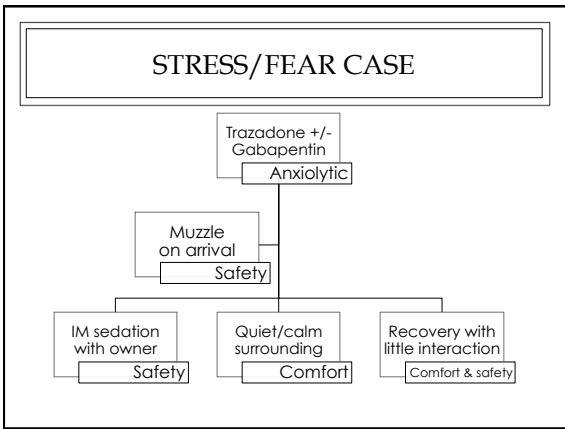
**DESIGN**  
Prospective observational study.

### ANXIOLYTIC AGENTS

- Gabapentin
  - Mechanism as anxiolytic/sedative unclear
    - VGCC
      - Overall reduction in calcium currents and potentially impacting neurotransmitter release
      - Decreasing overall excitatory tone and modulating anxiety
    - GABA
      - Modulation of GABA biosynthesis and nonsynaptic GABA neurotransmission
        - Indirectly impact GABAergic tone
    - Serotonin
  - Dosing : 20-25mg/kg PO (cats), 10-20mg/kg PO (dogs)
    - May cause sedation, appears to reduce signs of stress, increases compliance (cats)

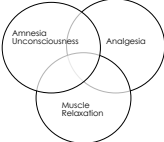
### STRESS/FEAR CASE

- Doberman with fear/anxiety
- Does not like being away from owner
- Does NOT like restraint

### DEXMEDETOMIDINE

- Sedative
- Analgesic
- Muscle relaxant
- Reversible



- But significant CV effects
- But can offset inhalant induced hypotension

### CV EFFECTS NOT DOSE DEPENDENT

- Cardiovascular effects do not change within clinically useful dose range
  - Predictability & reliability improved with higher dose
- Primary reasons for reducing dose, reduce cost & shorten duration of effects


Hemodynamic Effects of Medetomidine in the Dog:  
A Dose Titration Study

BRUNO H. PYPENDORF, DVM and JOHN P. VERSTEGEN, DVM, MS, PhD

DEXMEDETOMEDINE	
<b>Clinical (CIM)</b>	<b>Label</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dogs                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-5 mcg/kg IV</li> <li>• 5-20 mcg/kg IM</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cats                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-7 mcg/kg IV</li> <li>• 5-20 mcg/kg IM</li> <li>• 20-30 mcg/kg PO</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dogs                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-30 mcg/kg IV</li> <li>• 10-40 mcg/kg IM</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cats                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40 mcg/kg IM</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Metabolic Scaling	

PREDICTABILITY & EFFICACY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Higher doses &amp; combine with opioid better than alone</li> <li>• IV better than IM</li> <li>• Calm better than excited patient</li> <li>• Semimembranosus better than lumbar</li> </ul>

INJECTION IM OR IV	
<b>IV</b>	<b>IM</b>
<b>Advantages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faster onset</li> <li>• Lower doses possible</li> </ul>	<b>Advantages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less restraint needed</li> </ul>
<b>Disadvantages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires restraint</li> <li>• More profound effects</li> <li>• Risk of small hematoma</li> <li>• Pain on injection</li> </ul>	<b>Disadvantages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slower onset</li> <li>• May require higher doses or redosing IV</li> </ul>

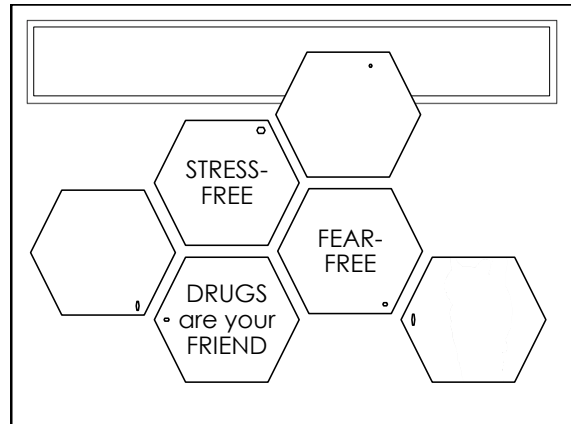
FRACTIOUS/STRESS CASE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cats have a threshold                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One try for IV (or IM)</li> <li>• Less stressful is IM injection</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Gabapentin                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25mg/kg PO</li> </ul> </li> </ul>


SEDATION PROTOCOL CATS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "Fractious"/ misunderstood cats                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dexmedetomidine IM/PO                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-15mcg/kg IM, 15-20mcg/kg PO</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Opioid IM/PO</li> <li>• Alfaxalone IM                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-2mg/kg IM</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Acepromazine IM                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.05mg/kg IM</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>


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### COMMENTS ABOUT INJECTIONS

- **Dexmedetomidine IM**
  - NOT lumbar due to reduced absorption
  - Hindleg muscle preferred
- **Midazolam IV**
  - Inhibition effects
    - Noise and light sensitivity
    - Excitability
  - Better sedation at higher doses administered IM
- **Hydromorphone IV**
  - May sting administered IV
    - Response 30 sec delay in dogs
  - Less vomiting due to faster onset in conj with dexmed given IV
- **Methadone IM**
  - Reduced absorption
  - Large volume
- **Buprenorphine IM**
  - Slow uptake IM (45min)
  - Significantly faster IV/TM



### METHADONE WHY ALL THE FUSS?

Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia, 2010, 37, 48-56      doi:10.1111/j.1467-2995.2009.00476.x

RESEARCH PAPER

Clinical pharmacology of methadone in dogs

Carina Ingvast-Larsson\*, Anja Holgersson\*, Ulf Bondesson†, Anne-Sofie Lagerstedt‡ & Kerstin Olsson§

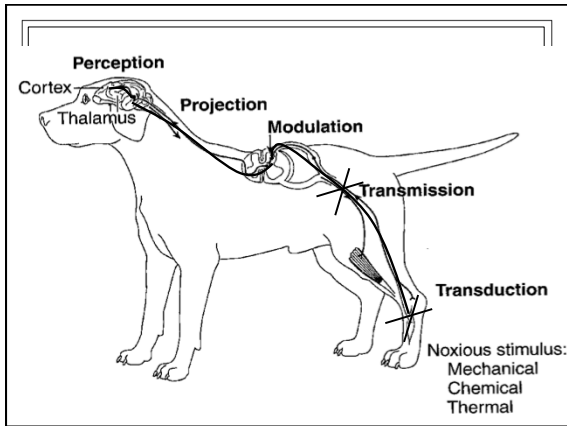
### METHADONE VS HYDROMORPHONE

- **Veterinary labelled mu agonist opioid**
- Similar efficacy & duration of action
- Lower potential for side effects
  - Nausea/vomiting
  - Panting?
  - Dysphoria & hyperthermia (cats)?
- NMDA receptor antagonist activity – significance?
- Dose 0.2-0.5 mg/kg
  - IM/SQ bioavailability?
  - Larger volume (10mg/ml)
  - Less reactivity when administered IV
  - Cost – methadone > hydromorphone > morphine

### INTRAOPERATIVE PAIN

- Pre-emptive analgesia
- Local blocks
- NSAIDs

### USE OF ROUTINE LOCAL BLOCKS... BESIDES DENTAL BLOCKS



### CASE FOR MAROPITANT (CERENIA) USE IN THE PERIANESTHETIC PERIOD

### MAROPITANT

- Requires administration 1h prior to prevent vomiting
- No evidence it reduces:
  - Gastroesophageal reflux (GER)
  - Incidence of aspiration pneumonia or
  - Peri-anesthetic morbidity.... &
- Analgesic efficacy, largely insignificant when used with opioid/NSAID & locoregional techniques
- Expensive

### MAROPITANT

- Indications
  - Those patients where vomiting may be detrimental (i.e. head trauma, brachycephalics)
- Routine use?
  - Better overall anesthetic quality?
  - Less vomiting (unpleasant)?
  - Animals tend to eat better post-operatively, less nausea
  - "Doesn't hurt"?

### IMPROVING THE RECOVERY EXPERIENCE

### STRESS VALUE SCALE (OVERALL, 2013)

**Assigning a 'stress value' to dogs**

Use this scale to rate pets' stress levels during each of the exam steps listed below. Any staff member can be trained to complete this task, which should be done at each visit.

STRESS VALUE	DOG'S BEHAVIOR AND APPEARANCE
0	Extremely friendly, outgoing, solicitous of attention
1	Calm, relaxed, seemingly unmoved
2	Alert but calm and cooperative
3	Tensed but cooperative, panting slowly, not very relaxed, still easily led on lead but may need encouragement
4	Obviously very tensed, anxious, shaking, whining, will not sit/lie down, panting intensely, difficult to maneuver on lead and encouragement doesn't help
5	Extremely stressed, barking/howling, tries to hide, needs to be lifted up or brutally forced please do not do this when pulled by lead

**CLINIC ENTRY:** Assess the dog's behavior upon entering the veterinary practice and in the waiting room.

0	1	2	3	4	5
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**WEIGH-IN:** Assess the dog's behavior upon being weighed.

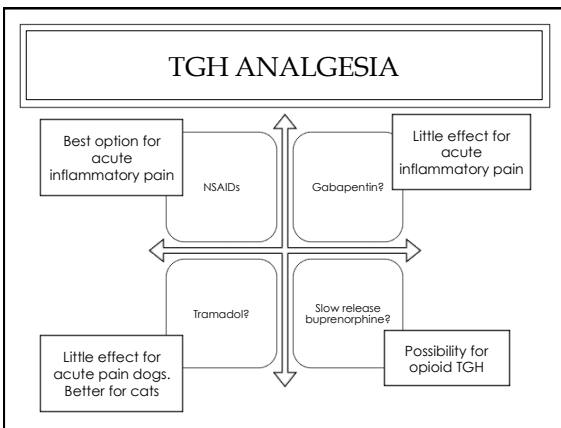
0	1	2	3	4	5
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**ENTERING EXAM ROOM:** Assess the dog's behavior upon being brought into the exam room.

0	1	2	3	4	5
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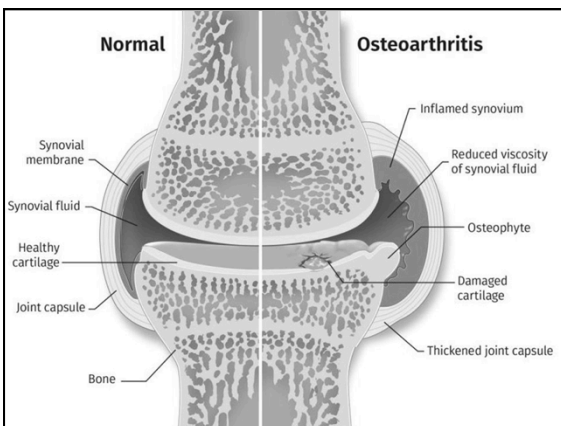
404 STRESS VALUE SCALE	
Stress Value	Patient Behaviour & Appearance
0	Extremely friendly and outgoing; attention seeking. Calm, relaxed, amiable
1	Alert but calm and cooperative
2	Tensed but cooperative, not very relaxed Dogs may pant slowly and need encouragement to walk on leash Obviously very tensed, shaking, anxious
3	Cats will hide at back of kennel, dogs will not sit/lie down Dogs may whine, pant intensely and are difficult to walk on lead even when with encouragement
4	Extremely stressed Barking, howling, hissing Dogs needs to be lifted, will not walk

- ### SMALL THINGS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE
- Bladder expression post procedure; especially after epidurals
    - Placement of urinary catheters if required
  - Fans provided for thick-coated or brachycephalic patients
    - Rule out hyperthermia for panting
  - Comfortable bedding and padding
  - Feliway
  - Pain infusion catheters
  - Yoga mats in kennel and outside kennel for easier walking when mobility issues
  - Laser wounds
  - Reduce anxiety
  - **LOW STRESS handling**



### OSTEOARTHRITIS

- Which drugs work?



- ### OA TREATMENT OPTIONS
- Chronicity and complexity of OA require extensive education of pet owner
  - Treatment plans can be complex, involving multiple re-assessments over a pet's life dependent on disease progression
  - Multitude of potential OA treatments, but no clear differentiation or priority based on OA stage is available

## CANADIAN OSTEOARTHRITIS TREATMENT GUIDELINES



Canadian OA Treatment Guidelines Summary

## Canine OsteoArthritis Staging Tool (COAST)

HIGHEST GRADE EQUATES TO COAST STAGE


COAST Stage		
Pre-clinical	0	Clinically normal, no OA risk factors.
Clinical	1	Clinically normal, but OA risk factors present.
	2	Mild OA
	3	Moderate OA
	4	Severe OA

- An established diagnostic tool providing clear guidance on how to decide on a dog's current OA stage based on owner input, orthopedic exam and radiographic findings.
- This tool helps veterinarians recognize and treat canine OA from its earliest stages

Carson T, et al. COAST Development Group. Face validity of a proposed tool for staging canine osteoarthritis: Canine OsteoArthritis Staging Tool (COAST). Vet 2018 May;235:1-6

## COAST STAGE 1

- Case




Stage 1 refers to a patient that is currently normal (preclinical) but has risk factors for developing OA.

**Risk Factors:**

- Genetic predisposition
- Participation in activity prone to injury
- Joint injury
- Surgery
- Excess body weight
- Age

## COAST STAGE 2

- Case




Stage 2 represents the early clinical stage of OA that results in mild clinical signs.

**Clinical Signs:**

- Can be inconsistent and subtle and can occur with or after activities.
- May affect gait, subtle changes/shifting in body weight distribution, and abnormal limb loading.



**Examination:**


- Range of motion (ROM) may be minimally reduced, but crepitus is unlikely at this stage.
- Mild osteophytosis and other early signs of OA may be visible on diagnostic images.



## NINA

- Young Golden Retriever
- 3 years old, FS
- Smaller than usual for her breed
- Kind of sluggish & appears to be lazy
- Gains weight easily, food "motivated"
- "Salmon-style walk"
- Not a fan of steep stairs



## COAST STAGE 4

Stage 4 is a clinical stage of OA with significant clinical signs and a higher level of dysfunction and pain.


**Clinical Signs:**

- Obvious, constantly present, and significantly affecting the dog's QoL. Severely abnormal limb loading and shifting of weight distribution, reluctance & restlessness when standing; significant lameness, reluctance to move, marked difficulties in rising and laying down.

**Examination:**


- Limited ROM with crepitus, joint thickening, anatomical misalignment and extreme muscle atrophy.
- Diagnostic imaging will show advanced osteophytes and signs of bone remodeling.





## BEAU

- 12 year old GSD
- Hind-end weakness
  - Muscle atrophy
- LS-pain
- Knee DJD (L)
  - Had TPLO procedure 6 years ago
- Seems to be restless at night
- Always panting

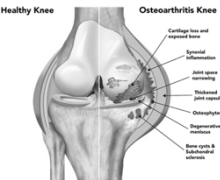


## BEAU

- 12 year old GSD
- Hind-end weakness
  - Muscle atrophy
- LS-pain
- Knee DJD (L)
  - Had TPLO 6 years ago
- Restless at night
- Always panting

Chronic inflammatory pain

Additional neurogenic/neuropathic component



### BEAU - PROBLEM LIST

- Knee osteoarthritis
  - PAIN, mobility issues
- Hind-end weakness
  - Tired, muscle atrophy, lack of strength, immobility
- LS pain
  - PAIN, mobility issues
- Panting & restlessness at night
- Drinking more

### REHABILITATION & PHYSICAL THERAPY



- Simultaneously:
  - Manages pain
  - Restores and maintains optimal function
  - Regains mobility and muscle strength

### REHABILITATION & PHYSICAL THERAPY

- Specific exercises
- Manual therapies
  - Stretches
  - Massages
- Laser
- PEMF
- Swimming/aqua treadmill
- Thermal therapy
- Ultrasound therapy
- Acupuncture

Most modalities require training

### SPECIFIC EXERCISES

9

### PHYSICAL SUPPORT





- For owner
- For patient

### SUPPORT





### PHYSICAL SUPPORT

### PAIN MANAGEMENT OPTIONS BEAU

- NSAIDs
  - Inflammatory nature of OA
- Gabapentin or pregabalin
  - Aspect of neurogenic component
  - Chronicity
  - Back pain (LS)

### GABAPENTINOIDS

Gabapentin	Pregabalin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOA                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blocks VGCa<sup>2+</sup> channels</li> <li>• Some serotonin effects</li> <li>• Increase in GABA</li> </ul> </li> <li>• PK:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TID necessary</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Side effects                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drunken sailor walk</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Same MOA</li> <li>• Superior PK                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ↑ Bioavailability</li> <li>• ↑ Duration</li> <li>• ↓ Side effects</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### TRAMADOL

**Lack of effectiveness of tramadol hydrochloride for the treatment of pain and joint dysfunction in dogs with chronic osteoarthritis**

**Steven C. Budsberg** DVM, MS  
**Bryan T. Torres** DVM, PhD  
**Stephanie A. Klein** DVM  
**Gabriella S. Sandberg** BS  
**Amanda K. Berjeski** BS

**RESULTS**  
 35 dogs completed the study. No significant changes from baseline in VI and PVF were identified for placebo and tramadol treatments; however, these values increased significantly with carprofen treatment. Changes from baseline in VI and PVF values were significantly greater with carprofen versus placebo or tramadol treatment. A significant improvement from baseline in CBPI scores was identified with carprofen treatment but not placebo or tramadol treatment.

**CONCLUSIONS AND CLINICAL RELEVANCE**  
 10 days of treatment with tramadol as administered (5 mg/kg, PO, q 8 h) provided no clinical benefit for dogs with osteoarthritis of the elbow or stifle joint. (J Am Vet Med Assoc 2018;252:427-432)

## AMANTADINE

*J Vet Intern Med* 2008;22:53-59

### Amantadine in a Multimodal Analgesic Regimen for Alleviation of Refractory Osteoarthritis Pain in Dogs

B.D.X. Lascelles, J.S. Gaynor, E.S. Smith, S.C. Roe, D.J. Marcellin-Little, G. Davidson, E. Boland, and J. Carr

## BEAU-TOP TREATMENT LIST

- Control pain
- Improve his muscle strength
- Assure a restful sleep to regain strength and motivation
- Evaluate co-existing diseases

## NUTRACEUTICALS

- Chondroprotective properties
  - Disease Modifying OA Drugs (DMOAD)
- Anti-inflammatory properties
- Muscle support
- Immune support

## NUTRACEUTICAL SUPPLEMENTS

- Omega 3 FAs
- Glucosamine/Chondroitin
- Green lipped mussel extract
- Eggshell membranes extract
- Elk Antler Velvet Extract
- Boswellia
- Epiitalis
- Fortetropin

ORIGINAL ARTICLE WILEY  
**Effects of a nutritional supplement in dogs affected by osteoarthritis**  
 Nadia Musco<sup>1</sup> | Giuseppe Vassalotti<sup>2</sup> | Vincenzo Mastellone<sup>3</sup> | Laura Cortese<sup>2</sup> |  
 Giorgia della Rocca<sup>4</sup> | Maria Lucre Molinar<sup>5</sup> | Serena Calabrò<sup>3</sup> | Raffaella Tudisco<sup>2</sup> |  
 Monica Isabella Cutiprelli<sup>6</sup> | Pietro Lombardi<sup>7</sup>

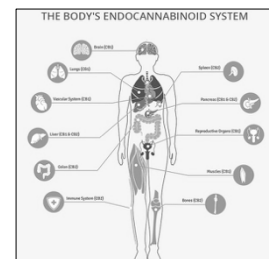
## CANNABINOIDS ROLE IN PAIN MANAGEMENT

BREAK

## ENDOCANNABINOID SYSTEM

- ECS plays key roles in control of various systems:

- Nervous
- Metabolic
- Digestive
- Reproductive
- Immune function

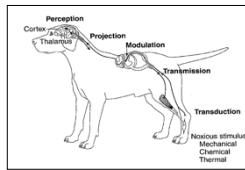
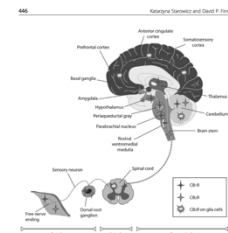


### ECS RESEARCH FOCUS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy metabolism                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appetite regulation</li> <li>• Obesity &amp; associated metabolic abnormalities</li> <li>• Cachexia &amp; Anorexia</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardiovascular &amp; respiratory disorders                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hypertension</li> <li>• Circulatory shock</li> <li>• Myocardial reperfusion injury</li> <li>• Atherosclerosis</li> <li>• Asthma</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CNS disorders                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neurotoxicity &amp; neurotrauma</li> <li>• Stroke</li> <li>• MS &amp; spinal cord injury</li> <li>• Movement disorders                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parkinson's dx, Huntington's dx</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Alzheimer's dx</li> <li>• Epilepsy</li> <li>• Mental disorders                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anxiety, depression, drug addiction</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Insomnia</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GI and liver disorders                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IBD &amp; Crohn's</li> <li>• Acute &amp; chronic liver dx</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Cancer</li> <li>• Musculoskeletal disorders                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Osteoporosis</li> <li>• Osteoarthritis</li> <li>• Pain and Inflammation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

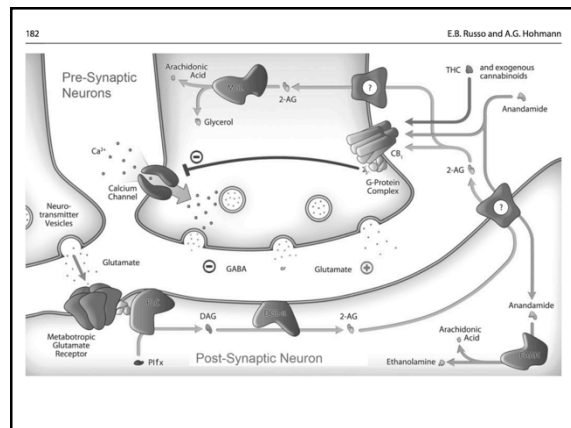
### MOA

- Understanding the MOA for adequate knowledge in cannabinoid medicine

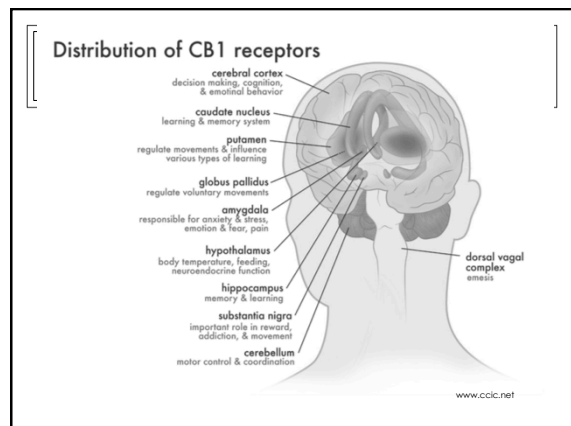
### ENDOCANNABINOID SYSTEM

- Consisting of:
  - Cannabinoid receptor 1 (CB<sub>1</sub>R)
  - Cannabinoid receptor 2 (CB<sub>2</sub>R)
- Endogenous cannabinoid ligands (endocannabinoids, eCB)
  - Anandamide, (AEA)
  - 2-AG
- Metabolizing enzymes
  - Fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH): hydrolyzes AEA
  - Monoacylglycerol lipase (MGL): hydrolyzes 2-AG



### CB<sub>1</sub> RECEPTOR

- Locations for CB<sub>1</sub>R:
  - Pre- and postsynaptic neurons in CNS
  - Nucleus of solitary tract (anti-emetic effects)
  - Motor cortex & motor neurons of spinal cord
  - Eye
  - Sympathetic ganglia (enteric nervous system)
  - Immune system (bone marrow, thymus, spleen, tonsils)
  - Peripheral sites:
    - Heart, lungs, adrenal glands, kidneys, liver, prostate, testes, ovaries, mast cells



### DOG'S SENSITIVITY TO THC

- Not really "more" CB1 receptors
- Different distribution
  - Higher concentration in cerebellum, brain stem and medulla oblongata
  - May be causing "static ataxia"

**RESEARCH ARTICLE**  
 Spatial distribution of cannabinoid receptor type 1 (CB<sub>1</sub>) in normal canine central and peripheral nervous system  
 Jessica Frazzini-Pavella<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Kristin Kagler<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Wolfgang Baumgartner<sup>1,3</sup>, Andrea Tjebk<sup>1,2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery, University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover

**Canabinoid receptor localization in brain**  
 Hippocampal cannabinoid type 1 receptor localization  
 Maura DiBenedicenti<sup>1\*</sup>, Allison B. Lewis<sup>1</sup>, Mark D. Lewis<sup>1</sup>, M. Rahn Johnson<sup>1</sup>, Lawrence S. Moxon<sup>1</sup>, Bruce R. de Coo<sup>1</sup>, and Kenneth C. Rice<sup>1</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, ARS, 14700 N. Highway 169, Bushland, Texas 76707-2551  
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<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, ARS, 14700 N. Highway 169, Bushland, Texas 76707-2551  
 \*Correspondence to: Maura J. DiBenedicenti, maura@hawaii.edu

### EXAMPLE CB<sub>1</sub>R

- Epilepsy
  - Seizure threshold is mediated by the ECS in particular via CB<sub>1</sub>R and plasticity of CB<sub>1</sub>R
  - Animal studies demonstrated both acute increases in endocannabinoid production and a long-term up-regulation of CB<sub>1</sub> production as apparent compensatory effects counteracting glutamate excitotoxicity

### CB<sub>2</sub> RECEPTOR

- Thought to be a peripheral immuno-modulatory receptor
  - Due to presence on immune related cells & tissues
  - Lack of detection in 'healthy brain'
- **Highly inducible:**
  - CB<sub>2</sub>R expression ↑ 100fold after tissue injury/ inflammation
  - Significant presence in brain
  - Role in neurodegenerative Dx
- Regulating immune system & inflammatory conditions
- Important effects on pain (neuropathic & inflammatory)

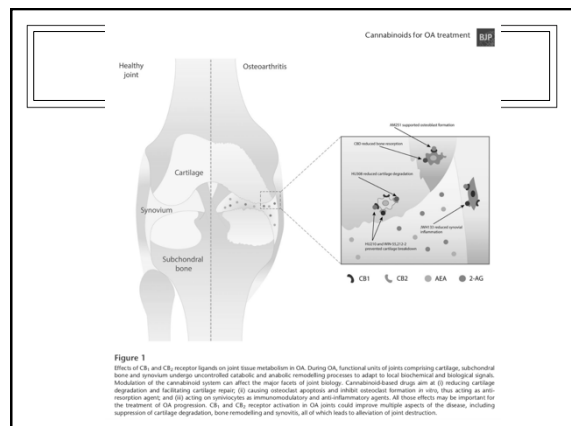
### CB<sub>2</sub> RECEPTOR

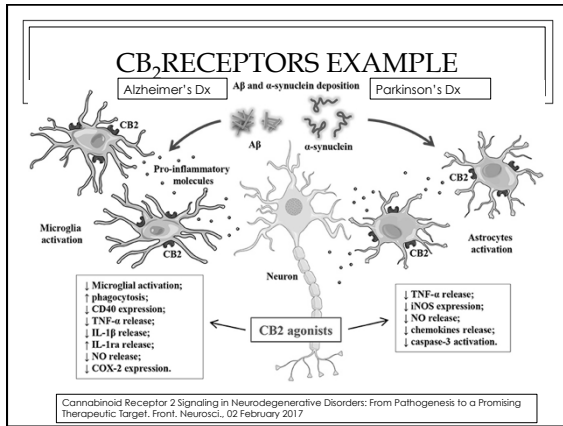
- Location:
  - Central CB<sub>2</sub>R on glial & endothelial cells, neuron
    - Agonists suppress microglial activation and reduce neuropathic pain syndrome
  - In DRG & dorsal horn of spinal cord
    - Upregulated during neuropathic & inflammatory pain
  - High expression in tissue of immune cells (spleen, thymus)
    - Specific immune cells
  - Peripheral
    - Keratinocytes
    - CB<sub>2</sub> R activation inhibits:
      - Cytokine & chemokine release
      - Substance P induced mast cell degranulation & plasma extravasation

### CB<sub>2</sub>R EXAMPLE

Cellular and Molecular Life Sciences  
 The CB<sub>2</sub> receptor and its role as a regulator of inflammation  
 Caroline Terrier<sup>1</sup>, Mark-Brian Wheeler<sup>1</sup>, Michel Ledebert<sup>1</sup>, Nicolas Planaud<sup>1</sup>

- Rheumatoid arthritis (RA)
  - Characterized by chronic inflammation of synovium, cartilage destruction & bone loss
    - Influx of innate (neutrophils, macrophages) & adaptive (lymphocytes) immune cells in synovial cavity with cytokine production
    - Osteoclasts become exaggeratedly activated & cause bone resorption
  - Endocannabinoids present in synovial fluids of RA patients
  - CB<sub>1</sub> + CB<sub>2</sub> mRNA and proteins found in synovial tissues
    - CB<sub>2</sub> activation inhibits production of pro-inflammatory cytokines & promotes osteoblast differentiation
  - CB<sub>2</sub> activation in RA joints could improve multiple aspects of Dx, including inflammation & bone loss
    - Promising target for treatment of RA

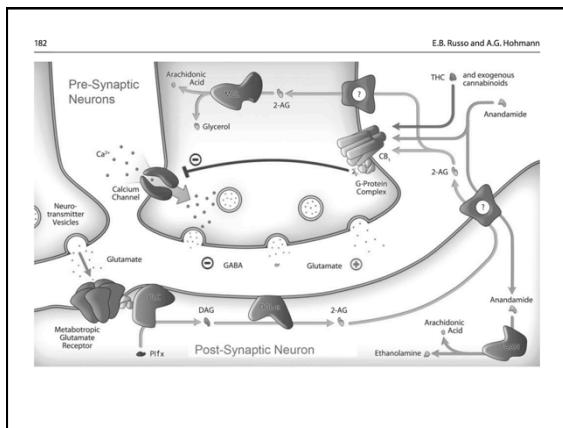




### ENDOCANNABINOIDS

- Endogenous lipid-based retrograde neurotransmitters
- Precursors are present in lipid membranes
- Upon demand endocannabinoids are liberated via enzymatic process & released into extracellular space
- 6 endocannabinoids identified
  - Two most studied being anandamide and 2-AG
  - N-Palmitoylethanolamine (PEA)

ON DEMAND PRODUCTION



### ENDOCANNABINOIDS

- **Anandamide (AEA)**
- **Arachidonoyl ethanolamide**

Anandamide

- High affinity, CB<sub>1</sub>R-selective partial agonist
- Low efficacy agonist at CB<sub>2</sub>R
- Affinity for other non-CBR:
  - TRPV1, GPR55, PPARs
  - "Endovanilloid activity"
  - Inhibition of VGCC and 5-HT3A receptors
- Break down to arachidonic acid + ethanolamine by FAAH

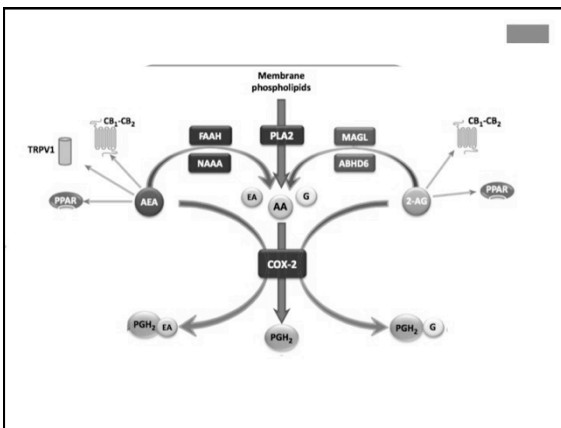
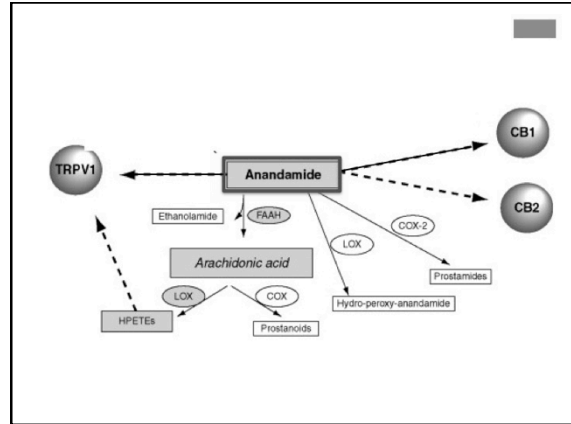
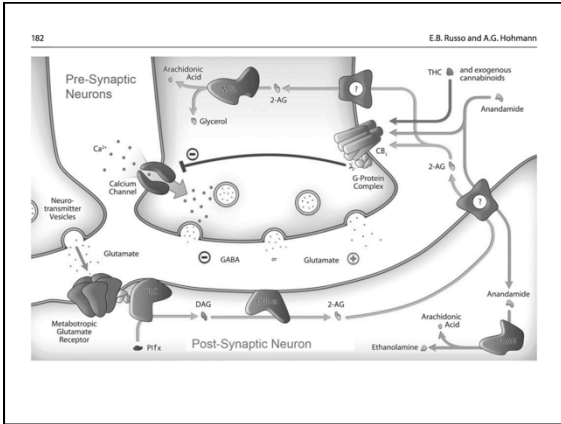
### ENDOCANNABINOIDS

- **2-AG**
- **2-arachidonoyl glycerol**

- Moderate affinity, CB<sub>1</sub>R/CB<sub>2</sub>R full agonist
  - Transforms into 2 enantiomers that appear to be full agonists
  - Higher affinity for CB<sub>2</sub>R
- Potentiate GABA<sub>A</sub> receptor & activity of PPAR receptors
  - Decreasing neuronal excitability and inflammatory response
- Break down to arachidonic acid + glycerol by MGL
  - Serves as a major source of arachidonic acid in prostaglandin synthesis in certain organs

### METABOLIZING ENZYMES

- **FAAH** (Fatty acid amide hydrolase)
  - Postsynaptic enzyme: controls anandamide levels near site of synthesis
  - Broadly distributed in CNS
- **MGL** (Monoacylglycerol lipase)
  - Presynaptic enzyme: terminates 2-AG signaling following CB<sub>1</sub>R activation
  - Distributed in CNS areas close to CB<sub>1</sub>R location
- Options for therapeutic targets:
  - Inhibition of endocannabinoid deactivation will increase levels of endocannabinoids at site with ongoing synthesis and release



**ECS**

- ECS parallels and interacts at many points with other major endogenous pain control systems
- Endorphin/enkephalin
- Vanilloid/transient receptor potential
- Inflammatory (eicosanoid) pathways
- Serotonergic & dopaminergic

**ENDOCANNABINOIDOME (ECBOME)**

- 'Expanded endocannabinoid system'
- ECS is much more complex than anticipated
- Endocannabinoids and enzymes play important roles in other physiological systems with complex buffer systems for physiology to prevent pathophysiology
- If degradation of endocannabinoids are blocked, it will interfere with other receptors and pathways

<b>ECS AND ECBOME</b>	
<b>ECS</b>	<b>eCBome</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endogenous pathway encompassing:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CB<sub>1</sub>R+ CB<sub>2</sub>R</li> <li>Endocannabinoids</li> <li>Metabolizing enzymes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extends the ECS system to include other receptors:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TRPVs and TRPAs</li> <li>PPAR <math>\alpha</math></li> <li>GPR55, GPR18, GPR119</li> <li>5-HTs</li> <li>GlyR</li> <li>And others</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

### ECS AND GUT-BRAIN AXIS

- The ECS is important regulator of intestinal function and brain-gut axis due to its homeostatic system
- ECS regulates visceral sensation, pain, motility, inflammation
- Inhibition of neuronal activity in pathways involved in GI regulation

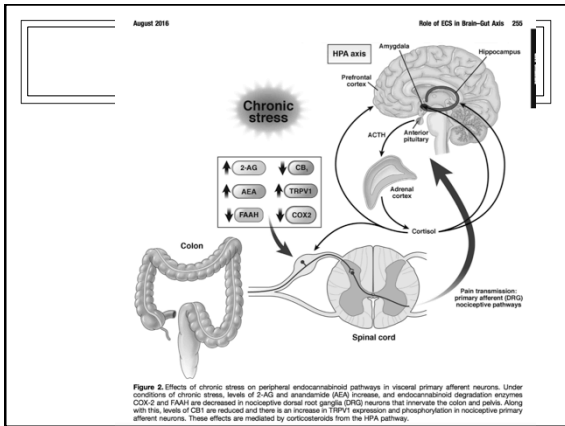
Gastroenterology 2016;151:292-296

**REVIEWS IN BASIC AND CLINICAL GASTROENTEROLOGY AND HEPATOLOGY**

Ernst J. Kuipers and Vincent W. Yang, Section Editors

**The Role of the Endocannabinoid System in the Brain-Gut Axis**

Keith A. Sharkey<sup>1</sup> and John W. Wiley<sup>2</sup>



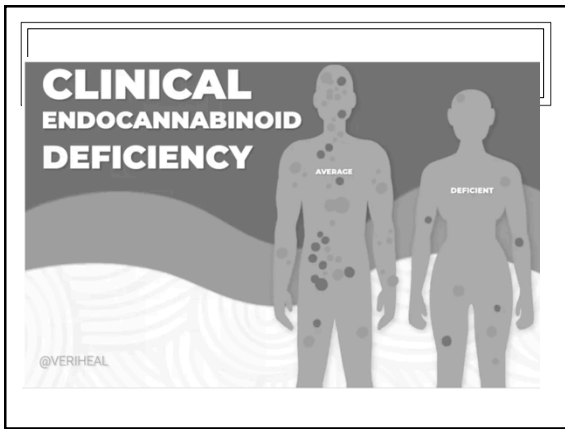
### ENDOCANNABINOID DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

- Migraines
  - Decreased levels of endocannabinoids
- Diseases linked
  - Fibromyalgia, IBD, chronic pain

REVIEW Open Access

**Clinical Endocannabinoid Deficiency Reconsidered: Current Research Supports the Theory in Migraine, Fibromyalgia, Irritable Bowel, and Other Treatment-Resistant Syndromes**

Ethan B. Russo\*



### ENDOCANNABINOID TONE

- Describes the overall state of your ECS
- ECS suggested to be tonically active in control of pain and mediating stress controlled analgesia
- Reflection of how receptors, endocannabinoids and enzymes act & react
  - Balanced ECS maintains homeostasis
  - Imbalanced or deficient system related to problems
    - Decreased pain threshold, mood, sleep

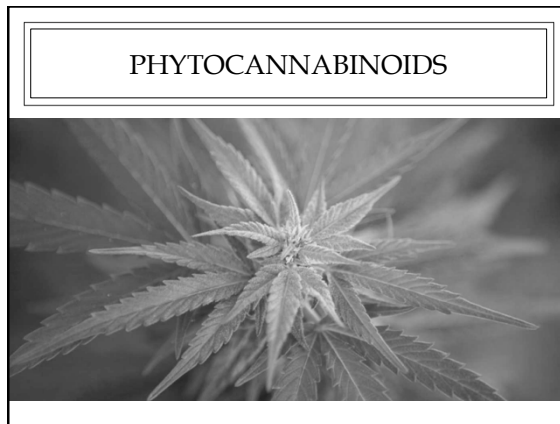
### PHARMACOGENETICS

- Individual responses to treatment
  - Responders/non-responders
    - Individual genetic predispositions lead to various body responses to cannabinoid treatment
- Deficiencies in ECS, basal endocannabinoid tone
  - Migraines/fibromyalgia
- Receptor expression, up- and downregulations of CBRs
  - Chronic use – higher doses THC in particular
  - Break for therapy might be necessary to reinstate CB<sub>1</sub> density and responsiveness
  - Clinical significance in pet population?

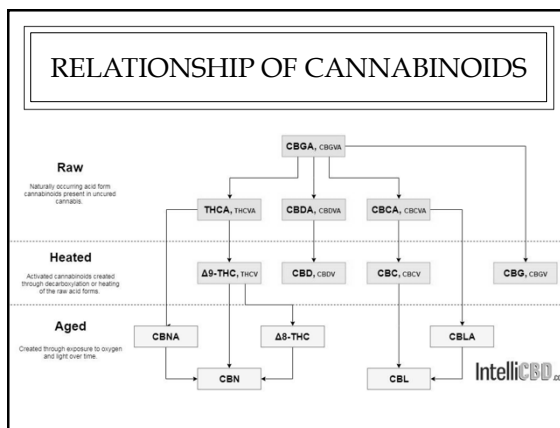


### PHARMACOGENETICS

- Patient's response may depend on gene polymorphism involved in action, metabolism, biotransformation & transport
- Gene expression variances
  - CB<sub>1</sub>R is encoded by cannabinoid receptor type 1 gene (CBN1) on chromosomes
    - Variances show higher incidence of substance dependence, negative effects
  - CBN2 variances may contribute to etiology of certain diseases
- Cannabinoids metabolism genes
  - Cytochrome (CYP) activity
  - Glucuronidation ability
- Endocannabinoids biosynthesis & bioactivation gene
  - FAAH, MAGL, COX



<b>Cannabichromenes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabichromene (CBC)</li> <li>• Cannabichromenic acid (CBCA)</li> <li>• Cannabichromevarin (CBCV)</li> <li>• Cannabichromevarinic acid (CBCVA)</li> </ul>	<b>Cannabigerols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabigerol (CBG)</li> <li>• Cannabigerol monomethylether (CBGM)</li> <li>• Cannabigeronic acid (CBGA)</li> <li>• Cannabigeronic acid monomethylether (CBGM)</li> <li>• Cannabigerovarin (CBGV)</li> <li>• Cannabigerovarinic acid (CBGVA)</li> </ul>	<b>Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol (<math>\Delta^8</math>-THC)</li> <li>• Delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinolic acid (<math>\Delta^8</math>-THCA)</li> </ul>
<b>Cannabicyclics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabicycol (CBL)</li> <li>• Cannabicycolic acid (CBLA)</li> <li>• Cannabicycolvarin (CBV)</li> </ul>	<b>Cannabinols and cannabinodiols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabinol (CBN)</li> <li>• Cannabinolvarin (CBNV)</li> <li>• Cannabinol (CBN)</li> <li>• Cannabinol methylether (CBNM)</li> <li>• Cannabinol-C2 (CBN-C2)</li> <li>• Cannabinol-C4 (CBN-C4)</li> <li>• Cannabinolic acid (CBNA)</li> <li>• Cannabinolic acid (CBNA-C1)</li> <li>• Cannabinovarin (CBV)</li> </ul>	<b>Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol-C4 (THC-C4)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinolic acid A (THCA-A)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinolic acid B (THCA-B)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinolic acid-C4 (THCA-C4)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC-C1)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinolic acid (THCA-C1)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinovarin (THCV)</li> <li>• Delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinovarinic acid (THCVA)</li> </ul>
<b>Cannabinoids</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabidiol (CBD)</li> <li>• Cannabidiol monomethylether (CBDM)</li> <li>• Cannabidiolol (CBD-C1)</li> <li>• Cannabidiolvarin (CBDV)</li> <li>• Cannabidiolvarinic acid (CBDVA)</li> </ul>	<b>Miscellaneous cannabinoids</b> <p>The following are other cannabinoids not classified in a class, does they fit into:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-Oxo-delta-6a-tetrahydrocannabinol (OTHC)</li> <li>• Cannabichromenon (CBCF)</li> <li>• Cannabiflavin (CBF)</li> <li>• Cannabifolol</li> <li>• Cannabipol (CBP)</li> <li>• Cannabicitran (CBT)</li> <li>• Dihydrocannabiflavin (DCHF)</li> <li>• Delta-9-cis-tetrahydrocannabinol (cis-THC)</li> <li>• Tetrahydro-delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (Tetra-THC)</li> </ul>	
<b>Cannabinoloids</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabellonic acid B (CBEA-B)</li> <li>• Cannabellonin (CBE)</li> <li>• Cannabellonin acid A (CBEA-A)</li> </ul>	<b>Cannabitrinols</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10-Ethoxy-9-hydroxy-delta-6a-tetrahydrocannabinol</li> <li>• 8,9-Dihydroxy-delta-6a-tetrahydrocannabinol</li> <li>• Cannabitrin (CBT)</li> <li>• Cannabitrinvarin (CBTV)</li> </ul>	



### CBD

- Low affinity for CBR
- Inhibits FAAH
- Inhibits anandamide reuptake
- Inhibits hepatic metabolism of THC
- Negative allosteric modulator at CB<sub>1</sub>R in presence of THC

Acts as endocannabinoid modulator

- TRPV1 agonist
- GPR55 antagonist
- Inhibits TNF- $\alpha$
- Activates the 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> receptor
- Inhibits voltage gated Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels
- Inhibits glutamate neurotoxicity
- Inhibiting adenosine transporter

### THC

- CB<sub>1</sub>R & CB<sub>2</sub>R agonist/partial agonist
- Inhibits prostaglandin E<sub>2</sub> synthesis
- Stimulates lipoxigenase
- Inhibition of glutamine release
  - Reduces NMDA response
- Serotonergic system:
  - Increases cerebral serotonin production
  - Decreasing synaptosomal re-uptake
  - Decrease 5-HT release from platelets
- Dopaminergic blocking actions
- Stimulation of  $\beta$ -endorphin release
- Neuroprotective antioxidant

## THCA AND CBDA

- Raw acid forms
- THCA
  - Does not cross BBB
  - Inhibits TRP activity
  - Inhibits COX<sub>1+2</sub>
  - Reduce levels of TNF- $\alpha$
  - Potent PPAR $\gamma$  agonist
- CBDA
  - Selective COX<sub>2</sub> inhibitor
  - Potent 5-HT<sub>1A</sub>
  - Reduces anticipatory nausea
- Not stable

## CBG - CANNABIGEROL

- Lacks psychotropic effects
- Strong analgesic, anti-erythema, lipooxygenase agent
  - Weak bindings to CB<sub>1</sub>R + CB<sub>2</sub>R
  - Potent GABA re-uptake inhibitor (>THC, CBD)
    - Muscle relaxant
- Inhibits anandamide reuptake
- TRPA1 + TRPV1 agonist, TRPV8 antagonization
- Blocks lipooxygenase
- Phospholipase A2 modulator
  - Reduces PGE-2 release in synovial cells
- Stimulates  $\alpha$ 2-adrenoceptor activation
- 5-HT<sub>1A</sub> antagonist
- Inhibits keratinocytes proliferation

## CBN - CANNABINOL

- Byproduct of THC
  - Commonly an artifact after prolonged storage at higher temp
  - Maintains 1/4 of potency of THC
- Weak CB<sub>1</sub>R partial agonist
- Various activity on TRP channels
- Inhibition of synaptosomal uptake of monoamine neurotransmitters (dopamine, norepinephrine, and serotonin) and GABA
- Antiinflammatory
  - Inhibition of COX, LOX
- Considered for topical application
  - Inhibiting keratinocyte proliferation
  - TRPV2 (high threshold thermosensor) agonist – for burn treatment
- Stimulates recruitment of mesenchymal stem cell in marrow
  - Promoting bone formation

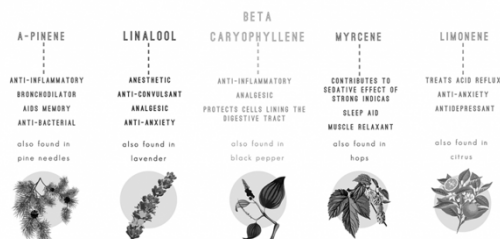
## CBDV – CANNABIDIVARIN

- Propyl analogue of CBD
- Devoid of psychoactive effects, but crosses BBB
- Agonist for TRP- channels
- Inhibits diacylglycerol lipase- $\alpha$
- Inhibits endocannabinoid degradation & cellular uptake of anandamide
- With CBD most researched cannabinoid for anti-seizure effects (especially focal seizures)

## THCV – TETRAHYDROCANNABIVARIN

- Propyl analogue of THC
- Encountered in low concentration in dried plant
- Dose dependent MOA:
  - Agonist (high dose) and antagonist (low dose) at CB<sub>1</sub>R
    - Weight loss, decreases body fat & serum leptin conc., increases energy-metabolism
  - Anticonvulsant properties in cerebellum and pyriform cortex (mice)
  - Potent CB<sub>2</sub>R partial agonist: CB<sub>2</sub>R based reduction of hyperalgesia and inflammation
- Research focus: epilepsy, obesity, diabetes

## TERPENES



### TERPENES

- $\beta$ -Caryophyllene\*
  - Anti-inflammatory action via inhibiting the main inflammatory mediators and enzymes
    - IL-1  $\beta$ , IL-6, TNF- $\alpha$ , NF- $\kappa$ B, iNOS, COX1+2
    - Gastrocytoprotective properties despite PGE<sub>2</sub> inhibition
  - Potent CB<sub>2</sub>R agonist
    - Synergism with THC
    - Reduces immunoinflammatory process

$\beta$ -Caryophyllene: A Sesquiterpene with Countless Biological Properties. Francomano F et.al.: Applied Sciences. 2019; 9(24):5420

### TERPENES

- Myrcene
  - TRPV1 activity
  - Reduces inflammation via PGE-2
  - Inhibits NO production by IL-1  $\beta$
  - Sedative/analgesic effects via  $\alpha$ -2 adrenoceptor
    - Reversible with yohimbine & naloxone
  - Muscle relaxant effects
  - Also present in hops

### TERPENES

- $\alpha$ -Pinene
  - Inhibits PGE-1
  - Bronchodilatory effects at low doses
- Linalool
  - Acts as local anesthetic
  - Anti-glutamatergic activity
  - Anxiolytic properties
  - Anticonvulsant effects

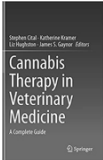
### ENTOURAGE EFFECTS

*"The whole is greater than the sum of its parts"*  
Aristotle

- Cannabis is inherently polypharmaceutical with synergy arising from interactions between its multiple components
- More effective than one component by itself
- Room for therapeutic research combining different components for specific disease, deficiencies and species

### CONSIDERATIONS FOR VETERINARY MEDICINE

- How to apply that information to cases you see
  - Different diseases may require different products
  - Different product availability and related PK
  - Available research variable
    - Species and product specific
  - Clinically observed individual differences



### EFFECTIVENESS FOR PAIN

- Chronic pain:
  - Multiple human, laboratory animal studies, cell models show evidence and promising results for effectiveness of cannabinoids for chronic pain
    - Inflammatory pain
    - Neuropathic pain
    - Cancer pain
- Acute Pain:
  - Human clinical trials show discrepancies on effectiveness in acute pain models
    - Varying methodology, product & dosing protocols preventing conclusions
  - Animal models (tail flick, thermothreshold, carrageenan injections) show significant anti-nociceptive effects
    - Both CBRs involved in peripheral inhibition of sensitization

### DRUG INTERACTIONS - PAIN

- In general, cannabinoids are considered safe
  - Dose related side effects
  - Age related side effects
  - Co-existing disease and drug related side effects
- Limited research on drug interaction
  - Multimodal pain management
- Several drugs may be enhanced when taken with CBD
  - Temporary Cytochrome P450 (CYP) deactivation/inhibition
  - > delayed metabolism and prolonged activity
  - Pharmacological understanding limited
    - Dose dependency may have influence

### DRUG INTERACTIONS WITH CANNABINOIDS

- Opioids:
  - Overlapping pathway with ECS
  - Opiate sparing effects, tolerance & withdrawal
- Gabapentin:
  - CYP450 related
  - Inhibition of VDCCs
    - Sedative effects of gabapentin may increase when CBD added
- NSAIDs:
  - Overlapping pathways
  - CYP450
  - Acetaminophen

REVIEW

**Emerging Evidence for Cannabis' Role in Opioid Use Disorder**

Beth Wood<sup>1</sup> and Adriane R. Wilson-Pae<sup>2</sup>

### CANNABINOIDS FOR BEAU

- Consider his disease state
  - Weak, painful
- Consider the multimodal regimen
  - Drug interactions
  - Synergism of medications
- Consider owner's position on topic
  - Interested, but cautious

<https://gem.cbc.ca/media/marketplace/s49e04>

### AVAILABLE LEGAL PRODUCTS

### CANNABINOID PRODUCT FOR BEAU

- Medipharm 50
  - 50 (CBD) : 1-2 (THC)
    - Higher conc to reduce volume of oil
  - Legal "full spectrum" product with terpenes that include  $\beta$  caryophyllene
- Bloodwork
- Dosing :
  - Start at 0.2mg/kg BID and slowly increase to 0.5mg/kg BID
  - Evaluation and journal / video

### BEAU

- Modalities part of rehab
- Massages
- Laser
- Acupuncture
- PEMF
- Steroid epidural

## QUALITY OF LIFE

### How Do I Know When it's Time? Assessing Quality of Life for Your Companion Animal and Making End-of-Life Decisions

Deciding to euthanize your companion animal may be one of the most difficult decisions you ever make. Often, well-loved pets are euthanized to relieve unnecessary suffering. The quality of animals' lives is defined by their overall physical and mental well-being, not just one aspect of their lives. The chart on the opposite side of this fact sheet attempts to consider all aspects of your pet's life. It is important to remember that all pets are different. What may be considered a poor quality of life for one may be different for another.

Higher numbers on this chart equal a better quality of life. This chart may help you to better evaluate the general well-being of your pet. In some cases, even one item on the white/red side of the chart (the example pet) may indicate a poor quality of life, even if many of the other items are still positive. Some items or symptoms on the list may be expected side effects of the treatments that your pet is undergoing. It is important to discuss these symptoms and side effects with your veterinarian.

**Questions to ask yourself:** "How do I know when it's time?"

**How Do I Know When It's Time?**  
Assessing Quality of Life for Your Companion Animal and Making End-of-Life Decisions

Sample Title	Poor Quality of Life				Good Quality of Life			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
<b>My pet...</b>								
Does not seem to like life	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not respond to my attention or does not interact with me the way you or others would expect	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy activities that you or others would expect	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy life	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy you	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy other people	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy other animals	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Does not seem to enjoy the outdoors	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4

## QUALITY OF LIFE

### Lap of Love Pet Quality-of-Life Scale

When evaluating the quality of life of your pet, personalized patient and family information is important when reaching an educated, informed, and supported choice that fits not only your pet's medical condition, but also your values and expectations. In short, quality of life applies not only to the pet, it also applies to you!

**SCORE EACH SUBSECTION ON A SCALE OF 0-2:**

- 0 = Agree with statement/observes my pet
- 1 = Some disagreement
- 2 = Disagree with statement/Does not describe my pet

**RESULTS**

0-4 Your concerns are minimal at this time. You have either accepted the inevitable loss of your pet and understand what you should do next or you're not sure. If you have not considered these things, visit the vet to help consider your pet's condition and treatment.

5-8 Your concerns are mounting. Begin your search for information by educating yourself on your pet's condition so the best way to resolve the problem is apparent to the medical diagnostic team.

9-10 Although you may not place much value on your own quality of life, your concerns about the changes to your pet are valid. Take the time to prepare yourself and to build a support system around you. Veterinary guidance will help you prepare for the medical changes in your pet while you and your family and other health professionals can begin talking to each other about your pet's future.

**QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF AND THE VETERINARIAN**

Before you make these medical questions that assess your pet's best, emotional, and (when appropriate) financial futures:

- What are my expectations for the best of my pet's future? If you, what are your expectations for the best of my pet's future?
- What do you have the life expectancy of your pet and what do you think it will be?
- What is the best decision you will make for your pet's best of the experience? (It's better to be sorry than to be regretful.)

**Suggestions on using this quality-of-life scale:**

- Complete the scale at different times of the day, one occasion (particularly in well-being, 10th and 20th most pets).
- Read the scale to help you better understand the data.
- Request multiple members of the family complete the scale (compare observations).
- Use personal photos of your pet to help you remember their physical appearance.

## OA PAIN MANAGEMENT

- Time consuming & complex disease
- Treatment is individualized with continuing fine-tuning & adjusting with evidence based knowledge
- Objective and subjective assessment of progress
- Set realistic expectations with QoL goals
- Empower owner to be part of the treatment



Thank  
you

