Living Systematic Review on Cannabis and Other Plant-Based Treatments for Chronic Pain: 2023 Update – Surveillance Report 3

Search Results:
March 2024


Search Period: October 24, 2023, to February 26, 2024

Summary: During the current search period, one observational study and two randomized controlled trials (one a companion to a previously included study) were identified. Figure 1 shows the literature review process that identified the studies. The list of all studies identified since the 2023 systematic review are in Table 1, with studies identified during the current search period in bold.
Figure 1. Literature flow diagram

Abstracts of potentially relevant articles identified through Ovid® MEDLINE®, PsycINFO®, Embase®, the Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, Scopus, and prior chronic pain reports (n=5,228) [515]

Full-text articles reviewed for inclusion (n=390) [87]

Included studies (n=33) [5]

Excluded abstracts (n=4,838) [428]

Excluded articles (n=357) [62]
- Ineligible population: 48
- Ineligible intervention: 17
- Ineligible comparison: 38
- Ineligible outcome: 5
- Ineligible duration: 18
- Ineligible study design: 69
- Ineligible publication type: 117
- Study not in English: 10
- Publication used as source document: 102
- Background information only: 15

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate all records identified up to the 2023 systematic review that had search dates through April 23, 2023. Numbers in brackets indicate the number of records identified since the systematic review was completed through February 26, 2024.

Table 1. New studies identified since the 2023 systematic review

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<tr>
<th>Search Period</th>
<th>Citation</th>
<th>Risk of Bias</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Study Design</th>
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Note: Studies that are bolded were identified in the current search period.