

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

## Search Results: March 2024

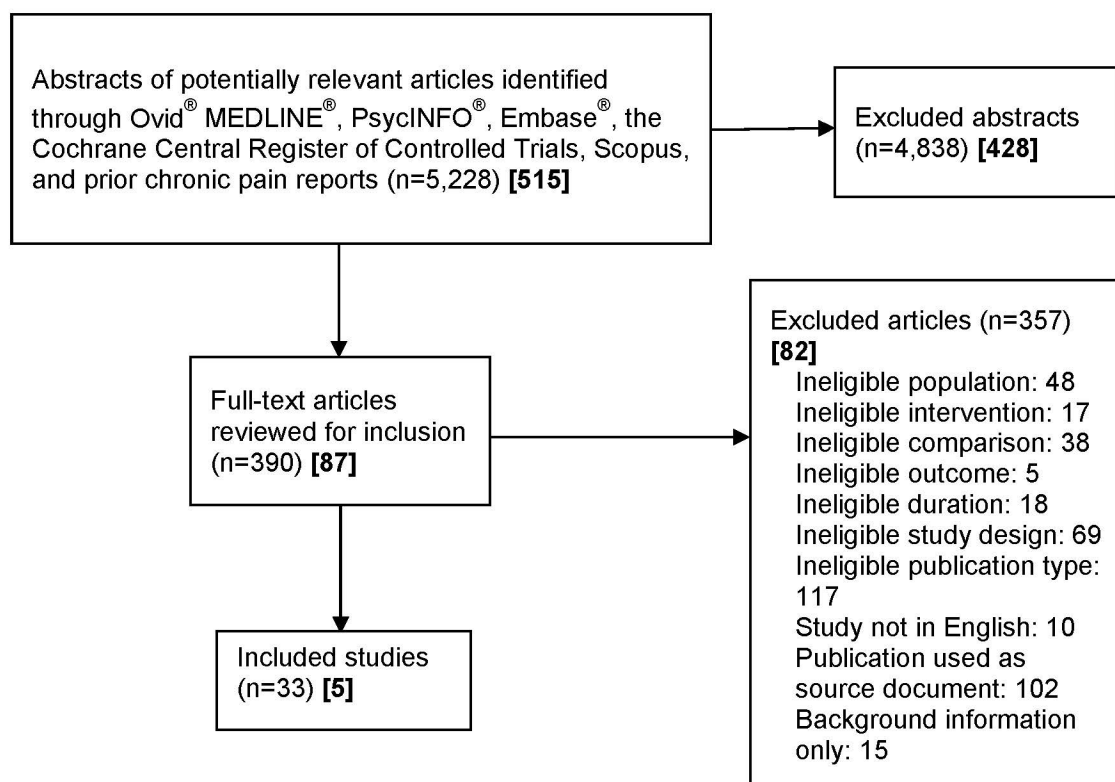
**Systematic Review:** Chou R, Ahmed AY, Bougatsos C, Morasco BJ, Gilbreath T, Dana T, Fu R. Living Systematic Review on Cannabis and Other Plant-Based Treatments for Chronic Pain: 2023 Update (Prepared by the Pacific Northwest Evidence-based Practice Center under Contract No. 75Q80120D00006.) AHRQ Publication No. 23-EHC031. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; August 2023.

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/plant-based-chronic-pain-treatment/living-review>

**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**



**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**

Search Period	Citation	Risk of Bias	N Study Design
January 1 to January 29, 2024	Holt A, Nouhravesh N, Strange JE, et al. Cannabis for chronic pain: cardiovascular safety in a nationwide Danish study. <i>Eur Heart J.</i> 2024. doi: 10.1093/eurheartj/ehad834. PMID: 38200679	Moderate	32,332 Retrospective cohort
November 27 to December 31, 2023	Hansen JS, Boix F, Hasselstrom, J, et al. Pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics of cannabis-based medicine in a patient population included in a randomized, placebo-controlled, clinical trial. <i>Clin Transl Sci.</i> 2023b Dec 6;17(1):e13685. doi: 10.1111/cts.13685. PMID: 38054364.	Low (companion to Hansen, 2023a)	23 Randomized controlled trial
October 24 to November 26, 2023	Pramhas S, Thalhammer T, Terner S, et al. Oral cannabidiol (CBD) as add-on to paracetamol for painful chronic osteoarthritis of the knee: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial. <i>Lancet Reg Health Eur.</i> 2023;35. doi: 10.1016/j.lanepe.2023.100777. PMID: 38033459.	Moderate	86 Randomized controlled trial

<b>Search Period</b>	<b>Citation</b>	<b>Risk of Bias</b>	<b>N Study Design</b>
September 3 to October 1, 2023	Hansen JS, Gustavsen S, Roshanisefat H, et al. Cannabis-based medicine for neuropathic pain and spasticity—a multicenter, randomized, double-blinded, placebo-controlled trial. <i>Pharmaceuticals (Basel)</i> . 2023a;16(8):1079. doi: 10.3390/ph16081079. PMID: 37630995.	Low	134 Randomized controlled trial
April 24 to May 21, 2023	Schubert EA, Johnstone MT, Benson MJ, et al. Medicinal cannabis for Australian patients with chronic refractory pain including arthritis. <i>Br J Pain</i> . 2023;17(2):206-17. doi: 10.1177/20494637221147115. PMID: 37057257.	High	296 Prospective cohort

Note: Studies that are bolded were identified in the current search period.

**Suggested citation:** Chou R, Ahmed AY, Bougatsos C, Morasco BJ, Dana T, Fu R. Living Systematic Review on Cannabis and Other Plant-Based Treatments for Chronic Pain: 2023 Update—Surveillance Report 3. (Prepared by the Pacific Northwest Evidence-based Practice Center under Contract No. 75Q80120D00006.) AHRQ Publication No. 24-EHC018. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality; April 2024. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.23970/AHRQEPCCER250.2023UPDATESR3>. Posted final reports are located on the Effective Health Care Program [search page](#).