Overview of Marijuana Evidence for Criminal and Liability Cases

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ToxSci Advisors LLC

CLE Presentation

UT Law CLE Presentation

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Disclaimer

- These slides are for informational purposes only. This information is not legal advice or a specific scientific opinion. The circumstances of each claim maybe unique as they relate to the presented information.

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BA in Chemistry

PhD In Toxicology (Biomedical Science)

Board Certified in Toxicology

Adjunct Faculty at University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston Texas, Department of Pharmcology & Toxicology

Over 30 Alcohol, Drug, Chemical Exposure Cases.

Chaired National Workshop on Science and Law, Cannabis and the Courtroom

Overview

• Background Information on Marijuana

• Regulatory Issues for Marijuana (THC) and Cannabidiol (CBD)

• Checklist / Recommendations for Investigations

• Case Study & Select Epidemiological Evidence

Goals

- Provide an Understanding of the Critical Factors when reviewing criminal cases & liability claims involving Marijuana / Cannabis / THC products.

- Propose Checklist for Due Diligence

- Provide Understanding when an expert opinion will provide you value in supporting a claim decision.
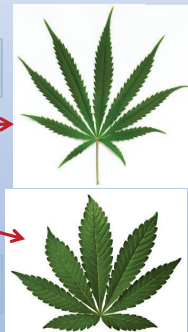

THC and Cannabis Plants

THC

- Characteristics of Stimulant, Sedative, Tranquilizer, Hallucinogen
- Natural product from the Cannabis plant (*Cannabis sativa*)
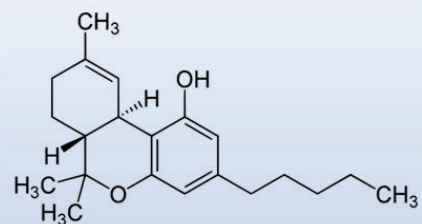
Other Cannabinoids

- 61 cannabinoids in *Cannabis sativa*
- *Cannabis indica*
  - more THC than CBD

Preparations

- Plant material: <15% THC
- Sinsemilla: <17% THC
- Resin/Hash: <20% THC
- Hash oil: 20-70% THC

Δ^9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)

Characteristics:

Hydrophobic

pKa: 10.6

V_d: ~10 L/kg

100 Cannabinoids
545 Compounds
Limited Study

Kevin Schneider, Ph.D.
Forensic Toxicologist
Virginia Department of Forensic Science
Northern Laboratory, Manassas, VA

Title search: Reviewing Marijuana Evidence for Criminal and Accident Investigation

Also available as part of the eCourse
[Hooked on CLE: August 2020](#)

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