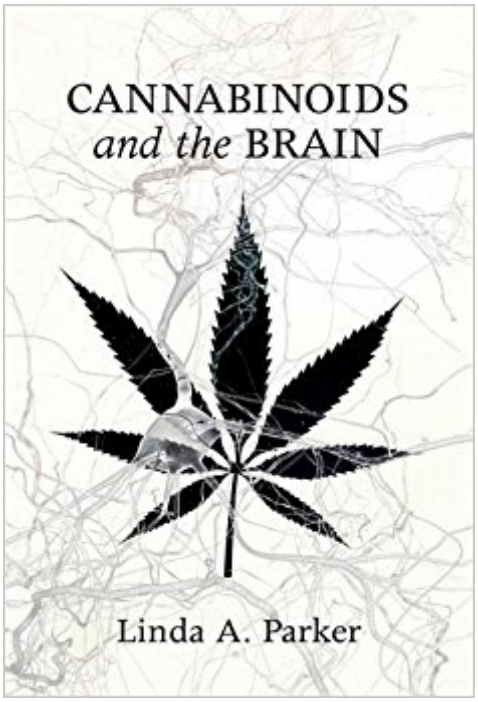
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Cannabinoids And The Brain (MIT Press)



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Synopsis

The cannabis plant has been used for recreational and medicinal purposes for more than 4,000 years, but the scientific investigation into its effects has only recently yielded useful results. In this book, Linda Parker offers a review of the scientific evidence on the effects of cannabinoids on brain and behavioral functioning, with an emphasis on potential therapeutic uses. Parker describes the discovery of tetrahydocannbinol (THC), the main psychoactive component of cannabis, and the further discovery of cannabinoid receptors in the brain. She explains that the brain produces chemicals similar to THC, which act on the same receptors as THC, and shows that the endocannabinoid system is involved in all aspects of brain functioning. Parker reports that cannabis contains not only the psychoactive compound THC, but also other compounds of potential therapeutic benefit, and that one of them, cannabidiol (CBD), shows promise for the treatment of pain, anxiety, and epilepsy. Parker reviews the evidence on cannabinoids and anxiety, depression, mood, sleep, schizophrenia, learning and memory, addiction, sex, appetite and obesity, chemotherapy-induced nausea, epilepsy, and such neurodegenerative disorders as multiple sclerosis and Alzheimer's Disease. Each chapter also links the scientific evidence to historical and anecdotal reports of the medicinal use of cannabis. As debate about the medical use of marijuana continues, Parker's balanced and objective review of the fundamental science and potential therapeutic effects of cannabis is especially timely.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Linda Parker is recognized by many of her academic peers as an eminent cannabinoid scientist. The book provides a great read both for those who already possess some, or even a lot of scientific and clinical knowledge about the central effects of cannabis and cannabinoids, and for those who are keen to begin gathering such knowledge. (Roger Pertwee, Professor, University of Aberdeen, Scotland; cannabinoid pharmacologist; editor of Handbook of Cannabis and Endocannabinoids)This book, written by a superb scientist with decades of experience in the field of endocannabinoids, is an elegant synthesis of a vast literature that has become a hot topic in medicine. It is written in language that is accessible to all and will be engaging for the curious layperson as well as scientists with background and expertise in the cannabinoid field. When medical schools finally catch on that the endocannabinoid system is a critical part of the human immune and pain defense network, this will also serve as a perfect reference text for medical trainees at all levels. (Mary Lynch, Professor, Department of Anesthesia, Pain Management, and Perioperative Medicine, Dalhousie University)Parker's book is a pleasure to behold -- a treasure trove of knowledge from a much-admired authority in the field of cannabis research. Parker provides a cornucopia of cannabinoid insights for the novice and expert alike: a compact yet richly detailed account of one of the fastest-moving frontiers in science and medicine. Eleven out of ten! (Iain McGregor, Professor of Psychopharmacology, University of Sydney; Director of Preclinical Research, Lambert Initiative for Cannabinoid Therapeutics)

Linda A. Parker is Professor in the Psychology and Collaborative Neuroscience Program and Canada Research Chair in Behavioural Neuroscience at the University of Guelph. She was the 2016 recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Cannabinoid Research Society and is currently President of the Canadian Consortium for Investigation of Cannabinoids.

I have a post-graduate degree in Neuroscience and hoped/expected this book would be a good reference, especially coming from MIT Press. Sadly, seemingly written on a junior high school level, author attempts, but fails to provide any meaningful information that cannot be obtained free online by Gxxxgling the topic. In fact, even though book has 2017 publish date, very few of the references are more recent than 2015 - therefore, much of the content is already very out-of-date in some sections. Over-simplified index is missing most pertinent terms. She even makes factual errors - i.e., see page 24 where author claims that abbreviation AEA is short for "anandamide", but is actually abbreviation for N-arachidonylethanolamine. If you plan to invest in a book to learn about neuropharmacology of cannabinoids, keep looking...

Cannabinoids and the Brain is an excellent source for cannabis research. The book may be difficult to read for people that don’t have a medical or research background. Nevertheless, if you have taken anatomy and physiology I and II in college you should not have much difficulty understanding the terminology.

Amazing !

A great read, whether you are an expert on cannabinoids or just interested in the topic. The chapters are well laid out and cover a broad range of topics that relate to cannabinoids and the brain. This includes the medicinal use of cannabis, as well as scientific research on how the bodyÃƒÂ¢Ã â ¬Ã â„¢s own endogenous cannabinoids play an important role in physiology and behaviour. Dr. Parker presents the information in a clear and concise manner that is both easy to understand yet engaging and enjoyable to read. I highly recommend!

Dr Parker has organized the plethora of cannabinoid research into a concise and unbiased review. While the book may not be considered ’light’ reading, it most certainly should be considered the handbook for understanding the current state of marijuana as a medicinal alternative to synthetic pharmaceuticals.

Pamela - the only way I can describe you, unfortunately, is dumb and ignorant. In one simple google search, go look up 6630507. Then tell me, why the US Government would hold the patent regarding CBD and cannabis oil and it’s benefits? Hmmm. You think pharmaceutical companies are always right, and squeaky clean? Hilarious. But sad, at the same time.

Dear Author - If it was true that cannabinoids were an effective medicine do you not thinkthat they would have been exploited by the massively wealthy pharmaceutical industry by now ?In 1985 there was some positive results from scientific study on the chemical THC found inthe cannabis plant (one of 750) but the adverse side effect profile for the use in chemo-therapyinduced nausea and vomiting made it less than desirable. By the 1990s better drugs had beendeveloped and the pharmaceutical industry moved on - that left THC in the dust. Now in thisdecade we see the pharmaceutical industry showing interest in CBD for Dravets - but it is stillin clinical trials for this rare and serious form of epilepsy in childhood and the results are in below30% for efficacy and again with an adverse side

effect profile that includes convulsions.This book overly in its enthusiastic position on marijuana and its derivatives as medicine andany book that starts off by saying that a plant has been used for thousands of years is suspect - hemlock,periwinkle and poppies have been around for thousands of years but luckily we have modern evidencebased scientific study and research so people do not need to revert to primitive medicines withserious side effects, - wild claims harm far more people than they help. This book is just one more piece of pot propaganda and is not worth the read. If this plant held promise - the pharmaceutical industry would have found it 30 years ago. A waste of time.

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