



Patients suffering from HIV/AIDS should elect to use medicinal cannabis strains, such as indicas, that provide the following palliative effects:

- Nausea relief
- Appetite stimulation
- Relief of neuropathic pain
- Depression relief
- Insomnia relief

DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this brochure is not meant to be construed as medical advice and should not be relied on as such. It is not a referral by a physician. This information is being provided by PDI Medical for the education and support of qualifying patients or designated caregivers. All patients and designated caregivers have the right to select the dispensary of their own choice.

Service Area

The professional staff at PDI Medical provides medical marijuana counseling and products to individuals living in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs

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847- 947- 8896 Fax

Hours

Monday - Friday: 8 am to 6 pm
Saturday: 9 am to 3 pm
Sunday - closed



www.pdimedical.com

 **PDI Medical**
Professional Dispensaries of Illinois
CANNABIS HEALTH CARE

HIV & AIDS

“Working with AIDS patients, I repeatedly saw how marijuana could ameliorate a patient’s debilitating fatigue, restore appetite, diminish pain, remedy nausea, cure vomiting, and curtail down to the bone weight loss”

Kate Scannell, M.D.
Co-Director of the Kaiser-
Permanente
Northern California Ethics
Department

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About the Condition

Human immunodeficiency virus infection and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) is a spectrum of conditions (often called HIV disease[2]) caused by infection with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).[3][4][5]

Following initial infection, a person may experience a brief period of influenza-like illness. This is typically followed by a prolonged period without symptoms.

As the infection progresses, it interferes more and more with the immune system, making the person much more susceptible to common infections, like tuberculosis, as well as opportunistic infections and tumors that do not usually affect people who have working immune systems.

The late symptoms of the infection are referred to as AIDS. This stage is often complicated by an infection of the lung known as pneumocystis pneumonia, severe weight loss, skin lesions caused by Kaposi's sarcoma, or other AIDS-defining conditions.

Since its discovery, AIDS has caused an estimated 36 million deaths worldwide (as of 2012).

In 2014 it resulted in about 1.2 million deaths.

As of 2014 36.9 million people are living with HIV.

Factoids

In its March 1999 report titled, "Marijuana and Medicine: Assessing the Science Base," the Institute of Medicine concluded that the use of medicinal cannabis was "promising for treating the wasting syndrome in AIDS patients.

Nausea, appetite loss, pain, and anxiety are all afflictions of wasting, and all can be mitigated by marijuana. Although some medications are more effective than marijuana for these problems, there are not equally effective in all patients."

The American Academy of HIV Medicine stated in the October 8, 2007 issue of *Reason Magazine*: "When appropriately prescribed and monitored, marijuana/cannabis can provide immeasurable benefits for the health and well-being of our patients."



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Dosing Models

Dronabinol 5-7.5mg daily in 2-3 divided doses – Consistent with FDA label recommendations, some could only tolerate 2.5mg daily. *MN Dept of Health*

THC: 20-40 mg daily in divided doses. Current marijuana users can tolerate higher doses. *MN Dept of Health*

THC: 2.5mg daily. Associated with therapeutic effect AIDS-related anorexia/cachexia *Health Canada*

THC: 1 cannabis cigarette (800mg) containing 1.8% or 3.9% THC by weight, smoked daily. For HIV/AIDS associated weight loss; ~14-31 mg THC/day *Health Canada-166*

THC: 1 cannabis cigarette (800mg) containing 2.0% or 3.9% THC by weight, smoked 4 times daily. For HIV/AIDS associated weight loss or disease-associated mood and insomnia; 64-125 mg of THC/day. *Health Canada-167*

THC: 1 cannabis cigarette (900mg) containing 3.56% THC by weight, smoked 3 times daily. Chronic neuropathic pain from HIV-associated sensory neuropathy; 96mg THC/day. *Health Canada-142*

Patients with preexisting immune deficits due to AIDS should be expected to be vulnerable to serious harm caused by smoking marijuana. The relative contribution of marijuana smoke versus THC or other cannabinoids is not known.