

Mental disorders caused by cannabinoids use

Relation to schizophrenia

- Changes in the endocannabinoid system may contribute to the pathogenesis of schizophrenia.
- increased activation of the endocannabinoid system through CB1 receptors on GABAergic interneurons in various brain regions -> may lead to hyperdopaminergic and hypoglutaminergic status, which may cause schizophrenia
- **Active ingredient and symptoms**
 - tetrahydrocannabinol (4-THC)
 - Effects: Euphoria, perceptual disturbances, social detachment, impaired judgement,, sociability, lightness, paranoia (i.e. delusions)
- **Withdrawal symptoms**
 - Irritability, aggression
 - Anxiety
 - Depression
 - decreased appetite (cannabis increases appetite "munchies")
 - insomnia
 - somatic symptoms: headache, tremors, abdominal pain, fever, chills, sweating
- **Mental complications of cannabis consumption**
 - Cannabis-induced psychosis (paranoia, delusional thoughts +/- hallucinations)
 - Cannabis-induced anxiety disorder
 - Cannabis-induced sleep disorder