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Title: *Pharmacy Students and Cannabidiol: A Survey on Knowledge and Educational Needs*

Abstract

Objectives

To assess pharmacy students' (1) baseline knowledge of cannabidiol (CBD) and self-rated competency of over-the-counter CBD (OTC-CBD) product pharmacotherapy, (2) concerns about OTC-CBD product safety and level of preparedness with answering questions about the product, and (3) current and future education and resources to assess the need of education in pharmacy school curriculum.

Design

Students were provided a 23-question anonymous, online survey that was active from 8/15/2019 to 10/31/2019. The survey was developed utilizing previous literature and was assessed for face validity before dissemination.

Setting and Participants

First through fourth year pharmacy students from 4 pharmacy schools in the Midwest were invited to participate in the survey. There were 1,570 students invited and 347 participated; giving a response rate of 22.1%.

Outcome Measures

Primary: Identify potential knowledge gaps amongst pharmacy students regarding approved conditions, negative effects, drug schedule, route of administration, pharmacology, pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics, counseling, and safety concerns regarding CBD.

Results

An overall lack of confidence and understanding of the pharmacotherapy of OTC-CBD was displayed in the responses. Out of students who state that their school of pharmacy does not cover CBD-related material in their curriculum or are unsure if this subject is covered in their curriculum, 91.3% feel that it should be incorporated.

Conclusion

Assessing the current knowledge of pharmacy students throughout the Midwest on CBD products demonstrates that educational opportunities are not only needed, but also desired throughout pharmacy school curriculum. Pharmacy schools should highly consider incorporating material covering state and federal regulations, indications, pharmacotherapy, and safety of CBD-related products into their curriculum.

