Effect of Marijuana on Reducing Severity of COVID-19 Symptoms

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BACKGROUND

Marijunna is used recreationally more often than treatment, however marijuna possesses anti-inflammatory properties, making it a viable option to be looked into for treatment of COVID-19 and reducing the severity of associated symptoms.

This is due to both HIV and SARS-COV-2, the viruses that cause AIDS and COVID-19 respectively, are retroviruses and have overlapping symptoms.

Nagarkatti, P., Pandey, R., Rieder, S. A., Hegde, V. L., & Nagarkatti, M. (2009, October). *Cannabinoids as novel anti-inflammatory drugs.* Future medicinal chemistry. https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2828614/.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this research was to determine whether or not marjiuana usage would reduce the associated symptoms and severity of the symptoms from COVID-19 infection.

METHODS

- For our study we asked respondents about their marijuana use and to rate the severity of their COVID symptoms.
- With the data from the survey we compared the severity of the symptoms between people who used some form of marijuana and those who didn't use any

RESULTS

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- 53 participants ranging in age from 21 to 33+ years old
- 38/53 participants have experienced COVID-19
- Roughly half male and half female participants

Main Finding:

Participants who use marijuana while experiencing COVID-19 symptoms have a lower mean score of severity compared to participants who did not use marijuana while experiencing symptoms.

Gender	Percent	Race	Percent
Female	54.2	Hispanic	36.7
Male	43.8	Black	12.2
Don't identify	2.1	Asian	20.4
AGE	Percent	White	18.4
21 - 23 years od	62.5	Latino	4.1
24 - 26 years old	20.8	American Indian	4.1
27 - 29 years old	8.3	Native Hawaiian	4.1
30 - 32 years old	8.3		

CONCLUSION

Our findings from the data support our hypothesis that using marijuana reduces the severity of the symptoms associated with COVID.
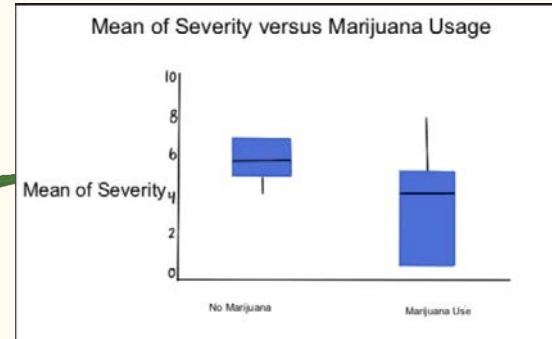
POLICY IMPLICATION AND NEXT STEP

- Conduct more research that has less limitations so that the results are more accurate.
- Keep moving in the forward direction where marijuana is no longer criminalized and making it more accessible for the public
- Create more awareness with education in order to spread knowledge of marijuana and potential benefits with classes

Mean of Severity versus Marijuana Usage

The figure above shows that "No Marijuana Usage" graph has a mean severity score of 6.2 and the "Marijuana Usage" graph has a mean score of 4.9.