incidents of adverse reactions, particularly those exacerbated by high-potency strains or toxic additives. A regulated market also discourages illicit activity, reducing exposure to dangerous drugs often sold alongside cannabis in black markets. 2. Promoting Medical Access and Mental Health Treatment Legalization enhances access to cannabis for therapeutic purposes, particularly for mental health conditions such as chronic pain and opens the door to explore the potential benefor for patents with anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and. Studies indicate that cannabinoids can alleviate symptoms of stress and anxiety when used responsibly and under medical supervision. By integrating cannabis into healthcare systems, individuals struggling with mental health disorders can benefit from a natural and potentially less addictive alternative to pharmaceuticals like opioids or benzodiazepines, which carry significant risks of dependency. 3. Addressing Stigma and Encouraging Open Dialogue Legalization reduces societal stigma associated with cannabis use, enabling more individuals to openly discuss their experiences and seek help for misuse if needed. Public health campaigns can then focus on education about responsible use, mental health implications, and support systems. Decriminalizing cannabis also reduces the disproportionate criminalization of marginalized groups, fostering a more inclusive and equitable approach to public health. 4. Potential to Reduce Alcohol and Opioid Use Research has suggested that legal cannabis availability is associated with reductions in alcohol and opioid consumption, substances that are more harmful to both physical and mental health. By providing a less harmful alternative for relaxation or pain management, cannabis legalization could mitigate the societal burden of these substances, including addiction and overdose crises. Conclusion While cannabis legalization requires careful regulation to mitigate risks like overuse or dependence, its potential benefits for public mental health are substantial. By reducing harm, enhancing medical access, and promoting a more informed and equitable societal approach, legalization represents a forward-thinking public health policy that prioritizes well-being over punitive enforcement.

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ECP011

Does Cannabis Legalization Contribute to an Increase in the Incidence and Prevalence of Psychotic Disorders?

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Abstract: Cannabis legalisation has undergone a rapid global transformation, with varying policy approaches and public health implications across different geographic areas and social contexts. Several arguments have been proposed to support cannabis legalisation, ranging from control of the quality and potency of the market products, harm reduction, addressing the black market activities, reducing crime, and economic benefit. However, cannabis use has been associated with public health concerns, and it has been established as the most preventable risk factor for psychotic disorders.

This work aims to dissect the key arguments supporting cannabis legalisation through the following objectives: 1) reviewing the relationship between cannabis legalisation and the incidence and prevalence of psychotic disorders in countries where cannabis has been legalised, as well as changes in incidence rates over time in those countries where legalization is currently under debate; 2) examining the relationship between cannabis use and psychopathological outcomes using a syndemic approach; and 3) presenting original data from the epidemiological branch of the EC-1 study, aiming to identify risk factors for psychopathology, violence, and aggression in South London.

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ECP012

Marrying up new trends in clinical research: AI and -omics

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Abstract: Artificial intelligence (AI) and -omics techniques (genomics, proteomics, metabolomics) represent two rapidly evolving fields that are increasingly intersecting to transform clinical research and healthcare.

AI, aiming to mimic human intelligence through computational modelling, possesses extraordinary capabilities for big data analysis. -Omics, offering quantifiable and dynamic readouts of the molecular state of the subject, can generate large databases covering hundreds to thousands of molecules with complex relationships.

Combining AI-driven insights with the wealth of data generated by genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, and metabolomics can help uncovering complex biological networks, with the potential to revolutionize our understanding of disease mechanisms, improve patient stratification, and optimize therapeutic interventions.

In this presentation, the concepts of AI and -omics and their combined application to clinical research will be discussed, summarizing the strengths and limitations of these approaches. Studies leveraging AI across various -omics domains will be presented. Key advances, ongoing challenges, and future perspectives in this rapidly evolving field will be debated.

While still in the early stages, the synergistic partnership between metabolomics and AI represents an exciting frontier that holds great promises for groundbreaking advancements in clinical research and human health, paving the way toward a new era of precision medicine.

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