

Cannabis and Health

Module 1

Lecture 1: Introduction to Professor and Course



Introduction to the Professor

- Kent Hutchison, Ph.D.
 - PhD in clinical Psychology
 - Internship & Fellowship,
Brown University, 1994-1998
 - Professor at CU Boulder
1998 – present

Professor Hutchison

- Established as an NIH funded clinical neuroscientist with first grants in 1998 and 1999
- Published many papers on mechanisms underlying alcohol use disorder and nicotine use disorder from 1998 to 2012
- Overarching goal was to develop new more effective treatments
 - Little progress in addictions research over the last few decades
 - Despite many millions in research, not moving the needle in terms of helping people with addictions

Professor Hutchison

- Focus changed to cannabis in 2013
- Presented at marijuana summit at the National Institutes of Health in 2016
- Served on a National Academy of Sciences Panel on the Health Effects of Cannabis in 2016
 - Produced a report on cannabis and health that is the basis for this class
- Used creative research designs to advance cannabis research and research center – now have over \$15 million in research funding
 - Effects of different strains and THC:CBD ratios
 - Effect of high potency concentrates
 - Effect of THC:CBD ratio on pain
 - Effect of THC:CBD ratio on anxiety
 - Opiate Use and Pain, Cancer, Diabetes, Aging, Alcohol use

In the Press

- Weissmann, J. How Does a Cannabis Researcher Do Her Job? (2018, October 7). Slate Working Podcast. Retrieved from http://www.slate.com/articles/podcasts/working/2018/10/what_s_it_like_to_study_the_effects_of_marijuana_in_a_state_where_cannabis.html [Bryan]
- The Cannabis Scientists of the Year 2018. (2018, August 30). The Analytical Scientist. Retrieved from <https://theanalyticalscientist.com/thecannabiscientist/articles/the-cannabis-scientists-of-the-year-2018/> [Bidwell, Bryan, Hutchison]
- Klein, J. Which is worse? Alcohol or marijuana? (2018, April 13). UCHealth Today. Retrieved from https://www.uchealth.org/today/2018/04/13/which-is-worse-alcohol-or-marijuana/?utm_source=ActiveCampaign&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=4/26/18%20EXT&utm_content=Weed%20or%20booze%3F%20Which%20is%20worse%3F [Hutchison]
- Knoss, Trent. Research on the Road. (2018, March 1). Coloradan Alumni Magazine. Retrieved from <https://www.colorado.edu/coloradan/2018/03/01/research-road> [Bidwell, Bryan, Hutchison]
- Cummings, J. Taking Research to the Streets. (2018, February). The Analytical Scientist. Retrieved from https://theanalyticalscientist.com/fileadmin/tas/pdf-versions/TCS_Issue4.pdf [Bidwell]
- Leythan-Powell, C. Cannabinoids are Easier on the Brain than Booze, Study Finds. (2018, February 2). Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine. Retrieved from <https://www.colorado.edu/asmagazine/2018/02/02/cannabinoids-are-easier-brain-booze-study-finds> [Hutchison]
- Gonzales, Robbie. The Future of Weed Science is a Van in Colorado. (2017, December 31). WIRED. Retrieved from <https://www.wired.com/story/the-future-of-weed-science-is-a-van-in-colorado/> [Bidwell, Bryan, Hutchison]
- Helms, Chelsea. High Hopes for Decreasing Opioid Overdoses. (2017, November 14). Western Slope Now. Retrieved from <https://www.westernslopenow.com/news/local-news/special-report-high-hopes-for-decreasing-opioid-overdoses/857689381> [Hutchison]
- Brasch, S. What Does More Potent Marijuana Mean for Users? (2017, November 2). Colorado Public Radio Colorado Matters. Retrieved from <http://www.cpr.org/news/story/what-does-more-potent-marijuana-mean-for-users> [Hutchison]

Research Center



Center for Research and Education Addressing
Cannabis and Health (CU REACH)

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER



[Home](#) [About](#) [News](#) [Research](#) [People](#) [Colloquia](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Donate](#)

Our Mission

The CU Center for Research and Education Addressing Cannabis and Health (CU REACH) is a rigorous, multidisciplinary center that is devoted to the development of evidence based knowledge regarding the effects of Cannabis. The ultimate objective of our research is to provide empirical data that will improve lives, in particular the lives of those who suffer from disease states that may be alleviated by Cannabis. Center faculty are diverse, examining the effects of Cannabis at the genetic, molecular, neural, behavioral, and dynamic social systems levels of analysis. [You can learn more by reading our academic futures white paper here.](#)

Specific research questions are:

- Can Cannabis play a positive role in solving the opiate epidemic?
- Is Cannabis an effect approach to pain management? And if so, in what forms and what doses?
- What is the impact of Cannabis use in individuals with PTSD and other psychological disorders?

Read more at: <https://www.colorado.edu/center/reach/>

Watch video at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0QfVRwwrc>

Research Center Principal Investigators and Collaborators



The Research Team





The more personal side...

Why is this introduction important?

- Goal is not self-promotion – science is what I do
- Want you to know that I am passionate about this area of research
- And that I believe that we can actually make a difference both in terms of research and education on this topic
- Grateful for the opportunity to teach a course on this topic!

Introduce yourself, tell us why you
are here (see discussion prompt
online)...