**C3RN News Summary – February 4th, 2019**

Research

1. A survey run by “Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) released Jan 30th showed that “83 percent support allowing legal access to medical marijuana, while 55 percent back recreational legalization” [Feb 1]

[More...](https://news.weedmaps.com/2019/02/survey-most-iraq-afghanistan-war-veterans-back-marijuana-legalization/)

2. Results from an ongoing, online survey of medical cannabis users with chronic pain nationwide about how cannabis affects pain management, health, and pain medication use finds that of those surveyed “~80% reported substituting cannabis for traditional pain medications (53% for opioids, 22% for benzodiazepines), citing fewer side effects and better symptom management as their rationale for doing so” [(University of Michigan Medical School), (Om of Medicine, Michigan), (Scottsdale Research Institute, Arizona)] [Jan 25]

[More...](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30690169)

3. An observational study done on a survey of people living with spinal cord injury (SCI) finds that “substantial pluralities felt that cannabis use is attended by moderate to great health-related and social risks (15.5% and 25.5%, respectively), and a majority (55.9%) felt it is attended by moderate to great legal risks. Subjects' duration of injury, employment status, and personal history of controlled or illicit substances influenced certain beliefs and attitudes” [(Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Philadelphia), (College of Rehabilitation Sciences, Philadelphia)] [Jan 18]

[More...](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30675390)

4. A survey of primary care providers between January 23 and February 5, 2018 found that a majority believed ("strongly agree" or "somewhat agree") that “medical cannabis was a legitimate medical therapy (58.1%) and 38.7% believed that providers should be offering to patients for managing medical conditions. A majority (> 50%) of providers believed that medical cannabis was helpful for treating the qualifying medical conditions of cancer, terminal illness, and intractable pain. A majority of providers did not know if medical cannabis was effective for managing nearly one-half of the other state designated qualifying medical conditions. Few believed that medical cannabis improved quality of life domains. Over one-third of providers believed that medical cannabis interacted with medical therapies. One-half of providers were not ready to or did not want to answer patient questions about medical cannabis, and the majority of providers wanted to learn more about it” [(Mayo Clinic, Minnesota)] [Jan 22]

[More...](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30669979)

5. “A study based on N‐SSATS — the National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services — has found that in 2016, the most recent year covered, only 36.1 percent of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment programs in the United States offer at least one of the three medications for treating opioid use disorders (OUDs)” [(Alison Knopf, NY)] [Jan 20]

[More...](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/adaw.32228)

Industry News

1. World Health Organization (WHO) recommends rescheduling THC out of Schedule IV [most restrictive international category] into Schedule I [least restrictive] (international) [Feb 1]

[More...](https://www.forbes.com/sites/tomangell/2019/02/01/world-health-organization-recommends-rescheduling-marijuana-under-international-treaties/#431981a56bcc)

Global

1. A review of survey results finds that “increased regulated access to medical and recreational cannabis can result in a reduction in the use of and subsequent harms associated with opioids, alcohol, tobacco, and other substances” [Canada] [Jan 28]

[More...](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30691503)

2. “The statistical analysis of the obtained results highlighted a wide variability in terms of concentrations among different samples from the same starting typology of cannabis, underlining the compelling need of a standardized procedure to harmonize the preparation of the extracts” [Italy] [Jan 21]

[More...](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30685656)