

Summary of *Curriculum Vitae* focused on Research and clinical Experience with *Cannabis sativa* (THC and CBD) since 1971 till today (and ongoing)



Robert Gorter, MD, PhD.

Robert Gorter was born and raised in the Netherlands and graduated as a medical doctor at the University of Amsterdam in 1971. He specialized in Family and Community Medicine, Internal Medicine, Biostatistics, Public Health, Biostatistics, Addiction Medicine, Tropical Medicine, Immunology and (non-toxic) Oncology. He was part of a group of clinical researchers who developed the manufacturing and application of Dendritic Cells since 2000 and the group was honored by the Nobel Prize for Medicine in 2011.

In the early 1970's, in three monumental building in the very center of Amsterdam, he established his own day-care hospital, vegetarian health food restaurants with bio-dynamic produce, cooking classes to small groups of patients and their beloved ones and school classes of various Waldorf Schools and gave workshops for students from various high schools and colleges in Amsterdam (including the Geert Groote School Waldorf School) in Amsterdam, Leyden and Haarlem.

In 1971, as the very first in the European continent, Dr. Gorter established the methadone detox- and methadone maintenance clinic in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, which quickly grew into the current **Jellinek Clinic** for alcohol- and drug addictions. He included *Cannabis sativa* in his detox and maintenance programs for damage control as well as for detoxification and rehabilitation. The

city of Amsterdam provided both the Methadone as well as two "joints" per day with high quality *Cannabis sativa*.

Also starting in 1971, Dr. Gorter started applying clinically *Cannabis sativa* to cancer patients and other chronically ill. The clinical effects were remarkably positive and he reported on that in many letters to the Editor and as invited speaker at national and international congresses and later to the German Ärztekammer (Medical association) for Continuous Medical Education.

In addition, he started a methadone detox and maintenance program for heroin-dependent individuals and parallel (paid for by the City of Amsterdam) a Program where or methadone was offered or *Cannabis sativa* as a cigarette but by bus. Especially, when addicts want to kick their (bad) habits, the beginnings are always difficult. Thus, Dr. Gorter and his team developed the "Methadone Bus" when in several spots in the City of Amsterdam the medications (Methadone and Cannabis cigarettes) were delivered to the front door of the client in detox or maintenance programs. Also, general care was provided by a nurse who was also on the bus as well.



One example of a "Methadone Bus" which would deliver Methadone and also Cannabis to parts of the city of Amsterdam on a daily basis as part of a methadone maintenance program and as part of de detoxification program

For those who reached a drug-free period of one to two months, a re-socialization program for one year was offered at a farm in **Purmerend** (a small town approx. 15 km north of Amsterdam). Here, specially-trained social workers and a part time psychiatrist helped the clients to re-socialize. Later, in San Francisco, California,

a similar project for hard drug addicts was successfully initiated and here Dr. Gorter, with all his experience in Amsterdam and other main cities in The Netherlands, played a leading role.



A look inside a methadone bus where clients would receive their daily doses of Methadone (or Methadone versus Cannabis if they participated in this above mentioned open-label clinical trial)

Also, Dr. Gorter developed a needle-exchange program during that time to prevent the spread of Hepatitis B and C (called the Australia antigen at that time).



Robert Gorter, MD, PhD, (ca. 1971/72) took the initiative to start the very first methadone program in the European continent in the Vondelpark in Amsterdam. He quickly got the nick name the "Clean Doctor" as he was a strict vegetarian, never smoked or drank alcohol, nor do any form of drugs (except coffee and tons of chocolate... and now we know that chocolate binds to anandamide receptors in the brain, explaining why chocolate has this relaxing and mildly addictive property)

In 1982, he moved to San Francisco, USA, to assist in the devastating HIV/AIDS Epidemic where he quickly became an Associate Professor-in-Residence at both the Department of Internal Medicine and at the Department of Family and Community Medicine at the University of California San Francisco Medical School (UCSF). Also, Dr. Gorter was the medical director of the Department of AIDS Epidemiology and Bio-Statistics at UCSF till 1993, when he left to become the Dean of the University Witten/Herdecke in Germany..

Here at UCSF, he put to work his experiences in needle-exchange programs in Amsterdam to combat the transmission of HIV and other retroviruses and even a methadone-bus program to deliver education about transmission of HIV was initiated with his support. Also, a group of prostitutes was established to have prostitutes educate colleagues about transmission of HIV working in the "pay-for-sex industry."

Dr. Gorter lectured Epidemiology and Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Public Health (1985-2006).

From 1983 through 1993 at UCSF, Dr. Gorter initiated the very first clinical trials with THC (**Marinol®**) in cancer and HIV/AIDS patients. Through his and other researchers' studies, THC was licensed for *anorexia* and *cachexia* in cancer and AIDS patients by the FDA (cachexia and anorexia are independent risk factors for both morbidity and mortality in all chronic disease).

Also, as the Medical Director of the Department of AIDS Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCSF, he found that those HIV positive patients who consumed *Cannabis sativa* (or as **Marinol®**) at least three times or more per week showed practically no progression of their disease over more than 10 years. This observation strongly suggested that *Cannabis sativa* (CBD) had a positive effect on chronic viral (HIV) infection. Today, we know it is especially due to CBD as a significant **COX-2 Inhibitor**.

From 1984 on, and besides being at UCSF and SFSU lecturing and function as an examiner at clinical exams, Dr. Gorter was professor at six other major universities in three continents at the same time. Till today, Dr. Gorter is working full time as a practicing physician as well as academically by teaching at numerous universities and seminars and initiating and conducting clinical trials. He is one of the most experienced and knowledgeable senior doctors world-wide in the field of the medical use of *Cannabis sativa* and its major Cannabinoids.

Also, Dr. Robert Gorter directed several clinic studies with Cannabis and Cannabinoids and with the European Mistletoe (*Viscum album*) and quite a few medical doctors received their PhD under his supervision.

In 1995, after having been the executive Dean of the Medical School at the University of Witten-Herdecke (Germany), Dr. Gorter established and headed his own Institute for Oncological and Immunological Research at the Free University in Berlin, Germany, where several studies were conducted, including comparing *Cannabis sativa* against THC (Marinol) alone against placebo. He started his institute with three coworkers and when he left in 2000, the institute had 83 coworkers and 38 collaborating universities and teaching hospitals. Twelve young research fellows obtained their PhD under his supervision and mentorship; several of them in the field of THC and *Cannabis sativa*; others in the field of *Viscum album*. During this very fruitful and productive period in his life, the main fields of research were the *Viscum album* and *Cannabis sativa*. After an initial reservation, the German authorities were very accommodating and allowed a multi-centered, phase-3 trials to compare THC against a placebo against a full-plant extract standardized for its THC content (Cannador ®).

CBD as a significant *COX-2 Inhibitor*, Dr. Gorter applied successfully CBD in oncological patients and any patients with pain and chronic degenerative diseases since 2000.

Already in 1995 and from the Dutch government, Dr. Gorter received a license to grow THC-rich Cannabis in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, and his group made "Medical Grade Cannabis" available in sterile 10 & 30 Gram portions on compassionate use through all pharmacies. Several studies have been done by Dr. Gorter and his team with this preparation and which were published in leading peer-reviewed medical journals, like JAMA, LANCET, NEMJ and BMJ.

Since 2001 and in his own clinics, like at the world-famous Medical Center Cologne (MCC) in Germany, Istanbul in Turkey and Cairo and Alexandria in Egypt where the Gorter Model was applied, he prescribed legally THC+CBD to almost all his cancer patients and patients living with other health problems including MS, DMD, Parkinson's disease, Attention Deficit Syndrome (ADHD; hyperactive youths especially), Autism, Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) and chronic pains.

From 1995 to 2015, Dr. Gorter has been advising the German authorities (**BfARM**), Indian and the Dutch, Belgian, Swiss and Italian authorities in regards to licensing *Cannabis sativa* and its cannabinoids for medical use.

Dr. Gorter participated in many live talk shows, documentaries and interviews on TV, radio and for newspapers on the medical use of *Cannabis sativa* in practically all countries of the EU, in South Africa, Turkey and in several countries in the Middle East, including Egypt and Lebanon.

His lectures, seminars, TV appearances and publications on *Cannabis sativa* are numerous and go back to the early 1970s.

Over the previous years, and on multiple requests from patients around the world, Dr. Gorter has consented to hold on-line consultations for patients needing to know more about *Cannabis* and if *Cannabis* would be indicated for their health problems and diseases; and prescribe it legally in many countries.

Also, for the USA, Dutch, German and Indian medical authorities, Dr. Gorter started a formal Continuous Medical Education (CME) program for doctors on the medical use of *Cannabis* but in the previous years, due to the SARS-CoV-2 epidemic, some of these activities slowed down.

Consultant to Pharmaceutical Companies:

During the 1980s at UCSF, Dr. Gorter consulted US companies which synthesized Dronabinol (**Marinol®**) and performed clinical trials with their products in Cancer and HIV/AIDS patients.

In Germany, during the mid-1990s through late-2000s, Dr. Gorter advised and was essential in assisting **Bionorica Pharmaceuticals** to establish their daughter company **delta-9-Pharma** that manufactured plant-derived Dronabinol. Also, Dr. Gorter gave multiple lectures and workshops for practicing physicians to inform

them about *Cannabis sativa* (THC and CBD) and practical use in their clinical practice.

Dr. Gorter received the sole license to import to and manufacture CBD and other cannabinoids inside of India in July 2018. The People's Republic of China followed by early 2022.

Currently, Dr. Gorter is very active both as a clinician, a researchers and as an educator through TV interviews and at (medical) conferences and treats daily patients with all sorts of cancer and also patients with chronic diseases, like Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Parkinson and Alzheimer's Disease, and peripheral neuropathies like in Diabetes mellitus, very successfully.

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