

## Web Annex D.D2: ETD summary for WHO Guideline on non-surgical management of chronic primary low back pain in adults

### D.2 Cannabis-related pharmaceutical preparations for therapeutic use

#### Overview of the PICO structure

Definition of the intervention	
Cannabis-related pharmaceutical preparations for therapeutic use (or ‘cannabinoids’) refer to a group of closely related compounds that are active in cannabis, with the two main cannabinoid compounds being tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD), which are suggested to have analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties.(1) Cannabinoids were evaluated with short-term (< 4 weeks) and long-term (≥ 4 weeks ) treatment duration, taken by various modalities including smoking or ingestion.	
PICO question	
<b>Population and subgroups</b>	Community-dwelling adults (aged 20 years and over) experiencing chronic primary low back pain, with or without leg pain, including older people (aged 60 years and older).  Subgroups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age (all adults and those aged 60 years and over)</li><li>• Gender and/or sex</li><li>• Presence of leg pain (radicular, non-radicular, mixed)</li><li>• Race/ethnicity - studies of populations who were historically marginalized compared with studies of those who were not</li><li>• Regional economic development - studies carried out in high-income countries compared with studies in low- to middle-income countries</li></ul>
<b>Comparators</b>	a) Placebo/sham b) No drug

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Outcomes	Critical outcomes constructs (all adults)	Critical outcomes constructs (older adults, aged ≥ 60 years)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pain</li><li>• Back-specific function/disability</li><li>• General function/disability</li><li>• Health-related quality of life</li><li>• Psychosocial function</li><li>• Social participation</li><li>• Change in the use of medications</li><li>• Adverse events (as reported in trials)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pain</li><li>• Back-specific function/disability</li><li>• General function/disability</li><li>• Health-related quality of life</li><li>• Psychosocial function</li><li>• Adverse events (as reported in trials)</li><li>• Change in the use of medications</li><li>• Falls</li></ul>

### *Other Evidence-to-Decision (EtD) considerations*

ETD process not completed since no trials were available.

### *Summary of judgements*

ETD process not completed since no trials were available.

### References

1. McDonagh MS, Morasco BJ, Wagner J, Ahmed AY, Fu R, Kansagara D et al. Cannabis-Based Products for Chronic Pain. A Systematic Review. *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 2022;175:1143-53. doi: 10.7326/M21-4520.