

Special Issue

The Role of Cannabinoids in Human Health and Disorder

Message from the Guest Editors

Cannabinoid receptors, endocannabinoids, and the enzymes responsible for their biosynthesis and degradation constitute the endocannabinoid system (ECS). The ECS controls many basic biological processes, exerting its activity in the nervous system and in peripheral tissues, with direct involvement in synaptic plasticity and neuroprotection, pain control, stress response, reproduction, food intake and energy balance, immune response, and cancer progression. As a result, ECS impairment has been reported in several diseases, and its modulation currently represents a possible therapeutic strategy for the treatment of numerous pathological conditions, including neurological diseases, mental and behavioral disorders, pain, inflammation, osteoporosis, cardiovascular disorders, obesity and cancer. Considering the importance of the ECS and the therapeutic potential of cannabinoids in this vast number of medical conditions, numerous ECS synthetic modulators have been developed over the past two decades, and several clinical studies are currently ongoing.

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