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Cannabis

- ***Cannabis sativa* var. *sativa* (hemp)**
 - Higher in fiber
 - Lower in cannabinoids
 - Grown commercially for its fiber and seeds
- ***Cannabis sativa* var. *indica* (marijuana, pot, weed, reefer, grass, dope, etc.)**
 - Lower in fiber
 - Higher in cannabinoids
 - Grown for medicinal and recreational use
- Numerous hybrids or cultivars of these two varieties exist with varying degrees of cannabinoid content



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An Interesting and Controversial Plant

- Belongs to the family Cannabaceae, which only has 11 genera
- Hops is its closest relative
- Has both male and female plants, as well as plants with both male and female flowers
- Has been used since ancient times for fiber for paper, clothing, rope and sails
- Along with flax seed, it's the richest plant source of omega-3 EFAs
- The seeds (pictured right) are used a fiber laxative in TCM (like flax seed)



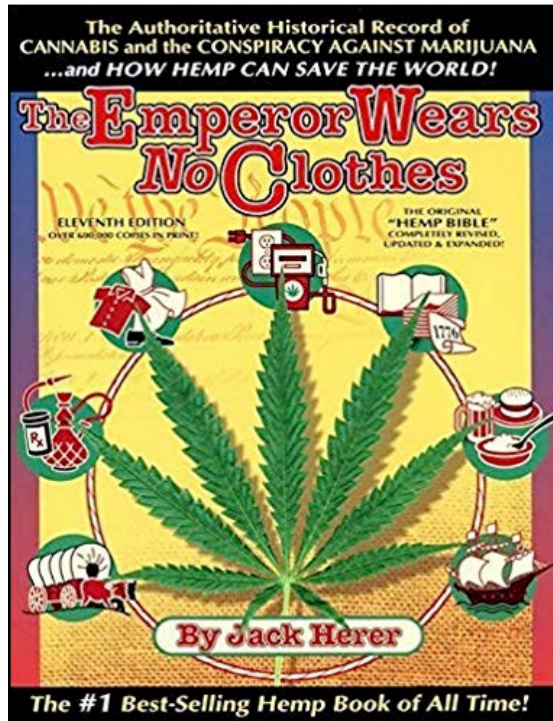
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Hemp Fiber

- The word canvas probably derived from the Greek word, *kannabis*, which means two reeds or two sexes, referring to a cloth made from hemp fiber
- Until 1883, 75-90% of all paper was made from hemp fiber, including Bible's, maps, books, newspapers and even paper money
- The first draft of the *Declaration of Independence* was written on hemp paper and later transferred to parchment
- Early American clothing was often made from hemp and old cloth was gathered to be recycled as paper, hence the term rag paper
- A 1916 USDA Bulletin reported that one acre of hemp could produce as much paper as 4.1 acres of trees over a twenty-year period



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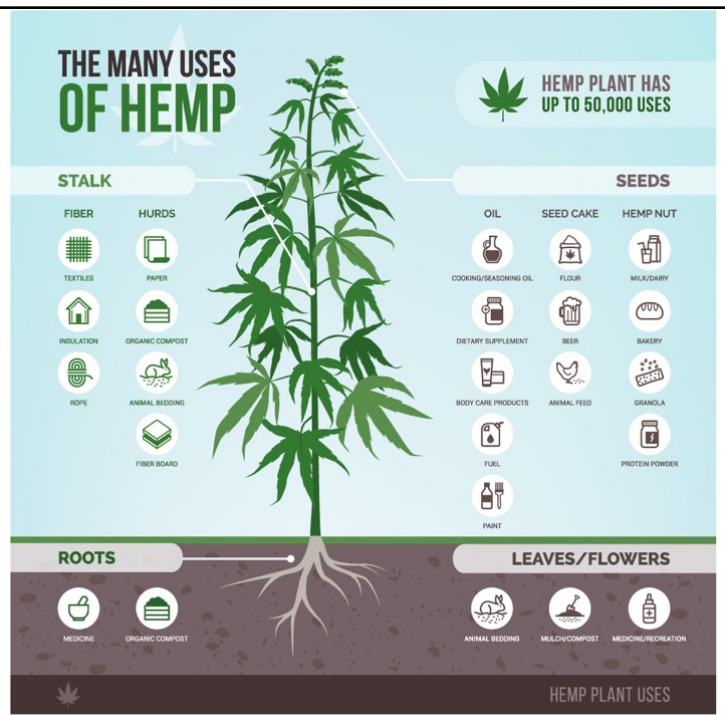
The Emperor Wears No Clothes

- Hemp was widely grown in the United States until the 1930s
- The newspaper man, William Randolph Hurst, was heavily invested in wood pulp paper and petroleum
- He saw hemp as a threat to his investments and began a smear campaign against it using an obscure Mexican term, marijuana
- He was able to get the plant outlawed in 1937, but it was brought back into cultivation for World War II

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Hemp is Now Legal

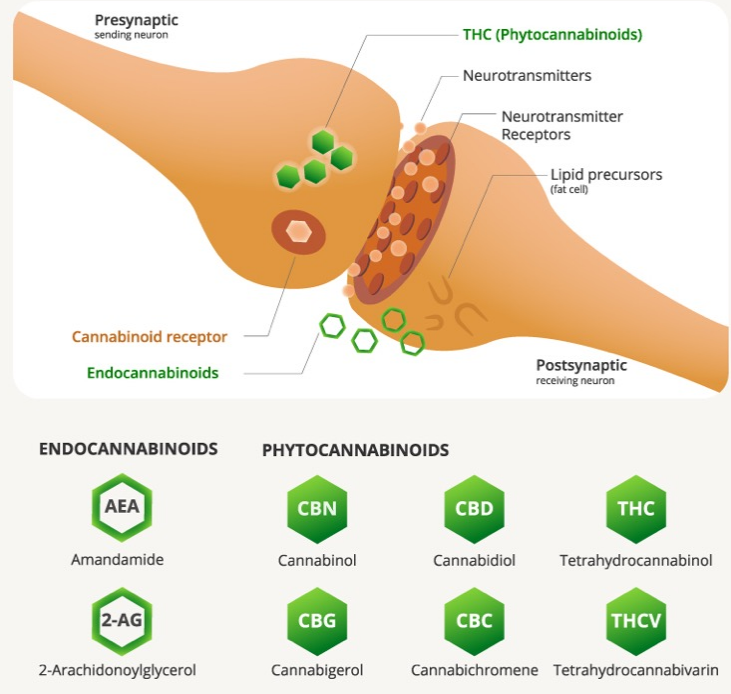
- In December of 2018, a new farm bill was passed and signed into law that permitted the cultivation of hemp in the United States under certain legal restrictions
- The biggest one is that the THC content has to be less than 0.3 percent
- This opens a new window for industrial use of this powerful plant



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Cannabinoids

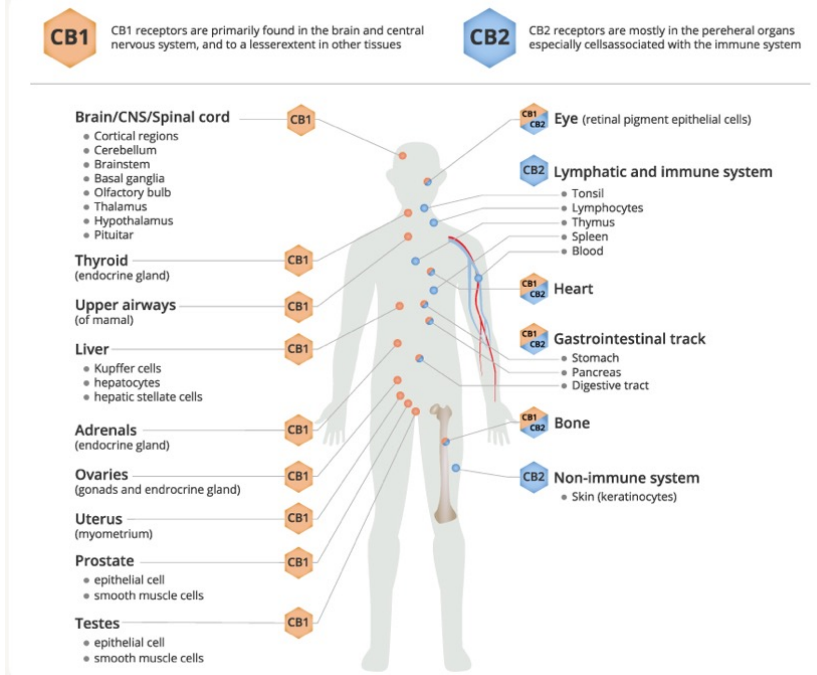
- **Endocannabinoids (5 known)**
 - Amandamide (AEA)
 - 2-Arachidonoglycerol (2-AG)
- **Phytocannabinoids (over 100 know)**
 - Cannabinol (CBN)
 - Cannabidiol (CBD)
 - Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
 - Cannabigerol (CBG)
 - Cannabichromene (CBC)
 - Tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV)



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Cannabinoid Receptors

- **CB1**
 - Primarily found in the brain and central nervous tissues
 - Also found in various glands and the liver
- **CB2**
 - Skin, Lymphatics, Immune system
- **Both**
 - Eyes, Heart, Bone
 - GI tract



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Endocannabinoid Receptor Functions

CB1 Receptors

- Involved in pain signaling
- Affect memory and learning
- May increase or decrease anxiety
- Affect motor control and coordination
- Increase appetite
- Can reduce nausea and vomiting
- May create euphoria (specifically THC)

CB2 Receptors

- Help maintain immune homeostasis
- Decrease peripheral nerve pain
- Decrease break down of bone and encourage formation of new bone
- Protect the heart from injury
- Aid liver recovery and inhibit fibrosis

Both affect enteric (gut) nervous system inhibiting secretions and motility and decreasing inflammation

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Homeostasis and Endocannabinoids

- The primary purpose of the endocannabinoid system appears to be to help maintain homeostasis
- Chronic stress, poor diet and chronic pain all have a negative impact on it
- It appears that an impaired or deficient endocannabinoid system can cause health problems that are difficult to treat
- Phytocannabinoids (cannabinoids found in plants) can be used to tweak homeostasis back into balance



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Homeostasis and Health

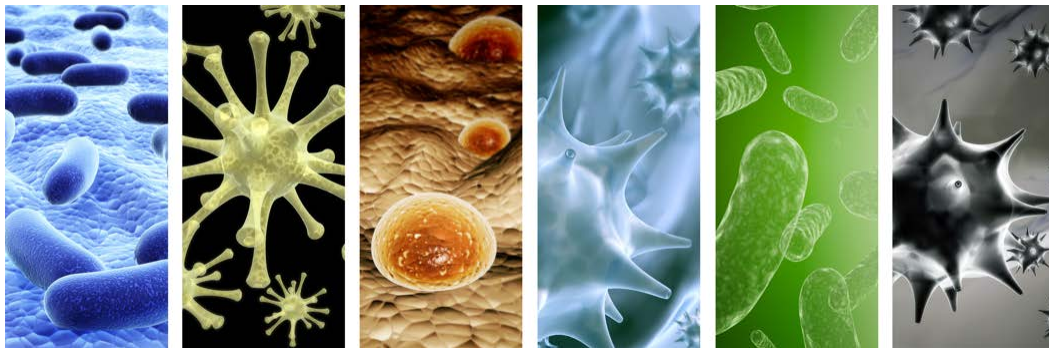
- Health is the balance between opposing forces in the body that must be dynamically adjusted in order to maintain normal conditions in the human body
- When the body goes out of balance in one direction or the other, homeostasis is disturbed and health decreases
- As the body is able to rebalance itself health is restored
- This balance is ongoing as changing environmental conditions constantly require an adjustment of the internal environment of the body



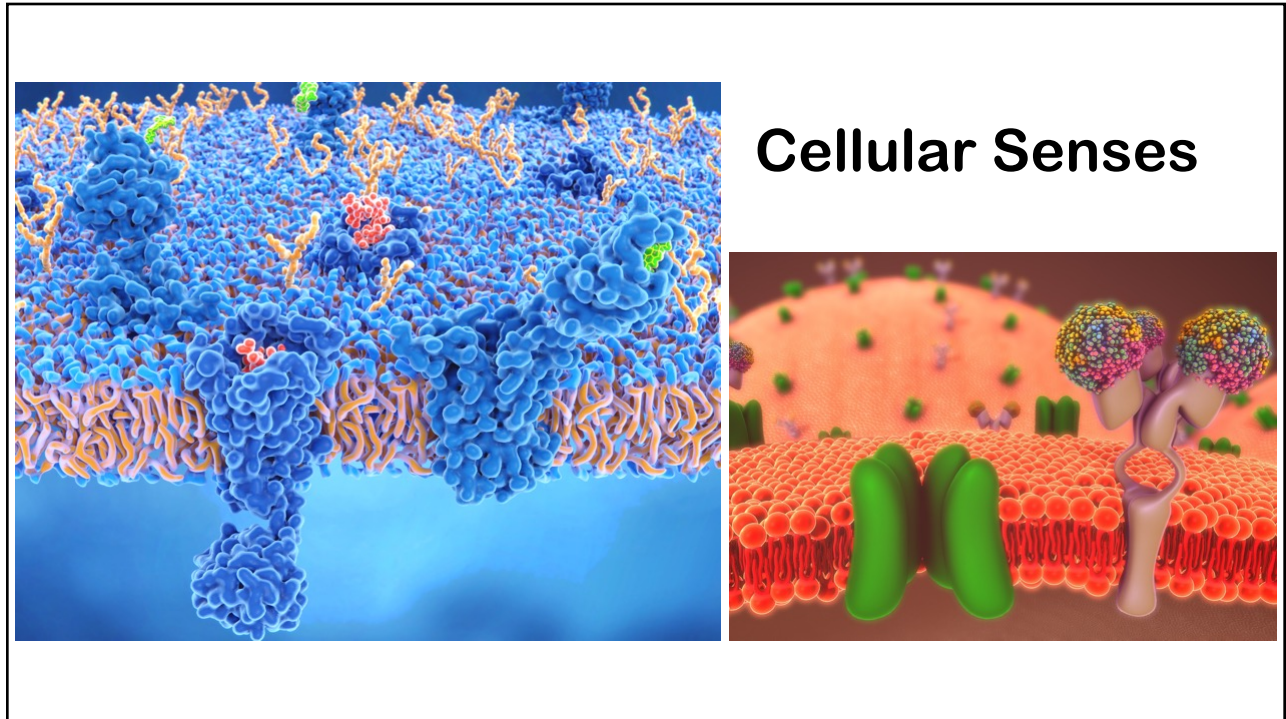
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Multicellular Systems

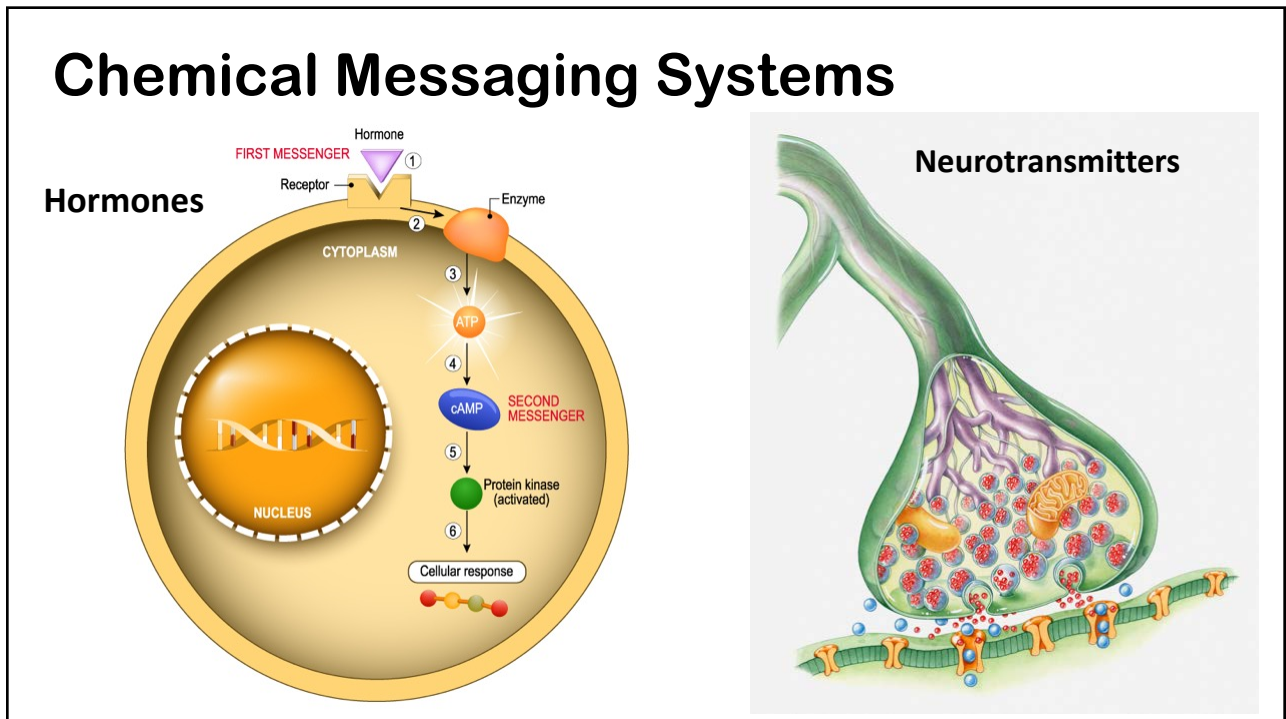
- The body is a community of around 30-40 trillion cells
- These cells are specialized to perform specific tasks for the body as a whole
- Each group of specialized cells (tissue) contributes it's share to homeostasis and receives the benefits of homeostasis in return
- In order to know what to do, cells rely on chemical signals in their environment to adapt to changing conditions



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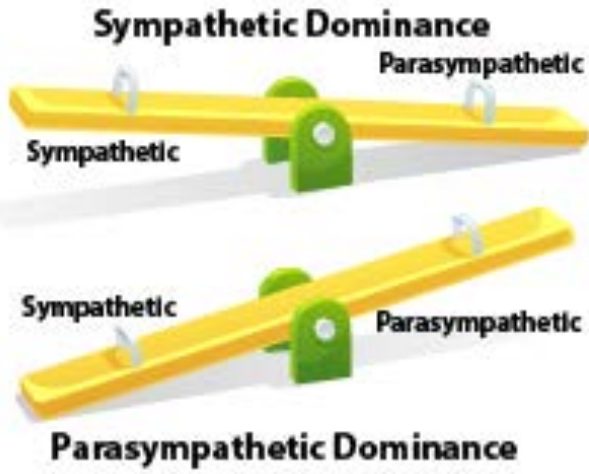


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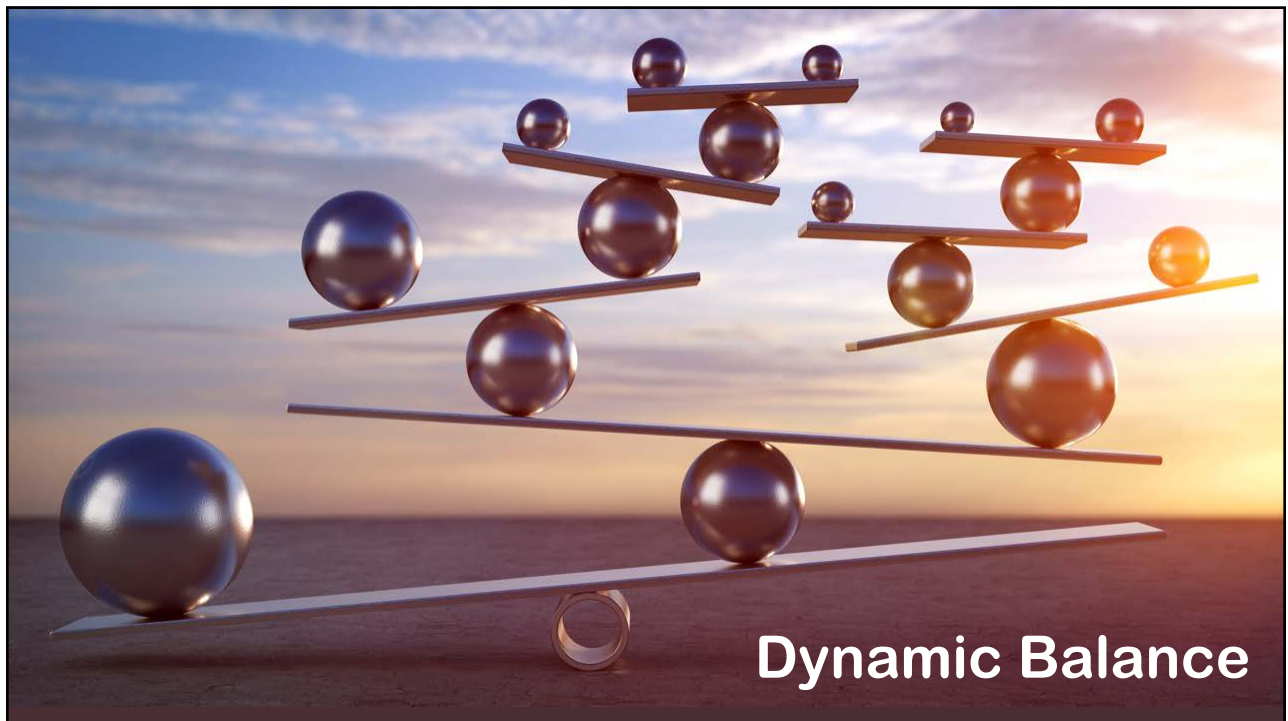


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Striving for Balance



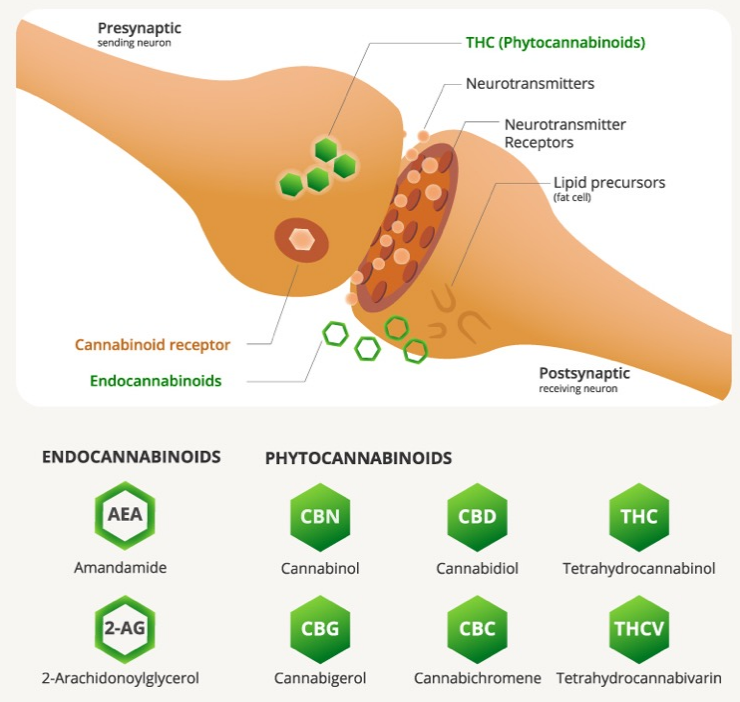
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Cannabinoid Function

- When the postsynaptic cell is receiving too many neurotransmitters there is an increase in calcium flowing into the cell
- The postsynaptic cell makes endocannabinoids which bind to receptors on the pre-synaptic cell
- This tones down the production of the neurotransmitter, balancing the signalling



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Phytocannabinoids

- About 113 phytocannabinoids have been identified in the cannabis plant
- Only a few have been well researched
- There are also phytocannabinoids and cannabinoid mimics in other plants such as echinacea, kava kava, chocolate, green tea and truffles
- Research is ongoing so we may find more cannabinoids and plants containing phytocannabinoids



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Echinacea

- Echinacea contains cannabimimetics in the form of alkylamides
- Approximately 25 alkylamides have been identified, and some have affinities for the CB2-receptor
- They are primarily found in the roots and flowers
- This may enhance echinacea's immune activity and work synergistically with the other compounds in echinacea that boost the immune response and fight infection



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Kava Kava

- Kava supplies kavalactones, which are known to relax muscles and ease pain while maintaining mental alertness
- One is called yangonin and interacts directly with the CB1 receptor.
- Kavalactones also bind to similar brain locations as cannabinoids, which may help explain how they work to reduce anxiety, ease muscle tension and relieve pain



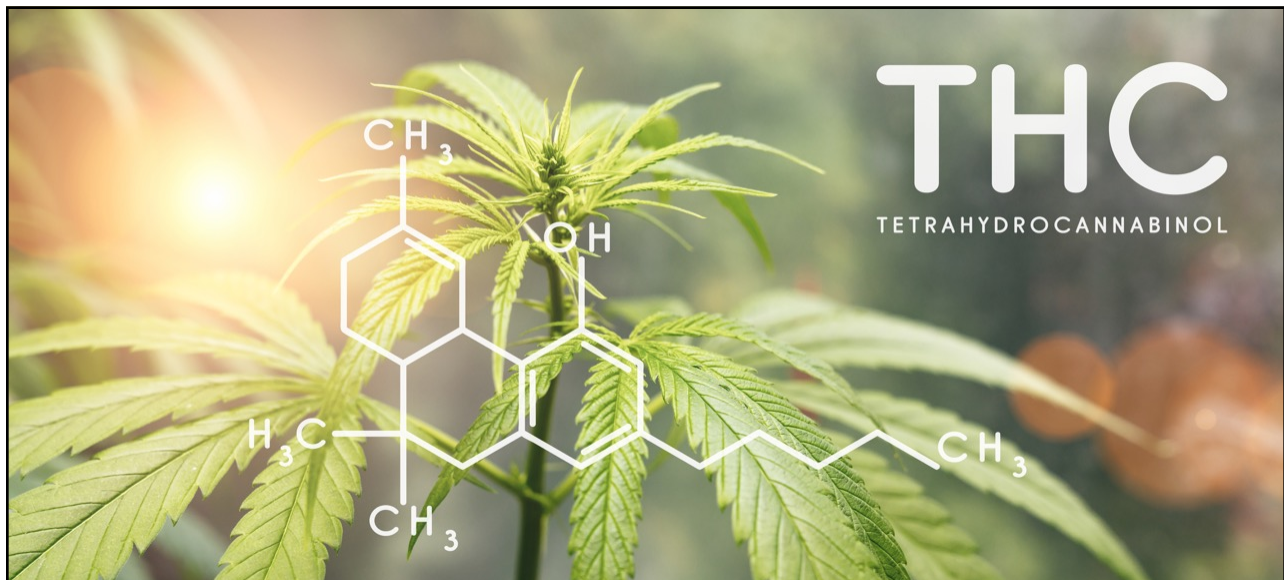
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Chocolate and Black Truffles

- Cacao contains many “feel good” chemicals theobromine, tryptophan, phenylethylamine, and the mineral magnesium
- It also contains the endocannabinoid, anandamide, which has been called the “bliss molecule”
- One more reason why we might crave chocolate sometimes
- Black truffles also contain anandamide




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THC
TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL

- THC is the phytocannabinoid that produces the psychoactive effects in marijuana

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CBD
CANNABIDIOL

- CBD is a non-psychoactive phytocannabinoid in cannabis

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Upcoming Education

- Channels, Cycles, Constitutions and Chinese Herbs
 - Nov 7, 14, 21 at 5:30 PM MT (\$60, \$5 members with Chinese Herb Bundle \$74, \$25 for members)
 - (<http://treelite.com/proddetail.php?prod=lc-813&cat=17>)
- A Holistic Approach to Disease
 - Two free webinars on Dec 5, 12 at 6:00 PM MT introducing next year's member webinar series (<https://events.genndi.com/channel/wholisticapproach>)
- 2019 Healthy Perspective Webinar Series
 - <https://events.genndi.com/channel/healthyperspective>
- 2019 Seeking Light and Truth
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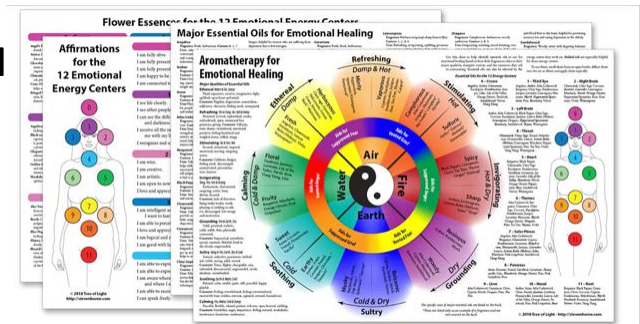


<https://events.genndi.com/channel/healthyperspective>

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