

APA Official Actions

Position Statement in Opposition to Cannabis as Medicine for Psychiatric Disorders

Approved by the Board of Trustees, December 2025

Approved by the Assembly, November 2025

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Issue:

The legal and societal status of cannabis continues to fluctuate, with increasing accessibility and acceptability across the United States. To reduce the potential harm that may be caused by cannabis use, medical professional organizations have an obligation to provide clear guidance of the known benefits and harms of cannabis.

It is the position of APA that:

- **There is insufficient evidence that cannabis is an effective treatment for any psychiatric disorder.**
- **There is a strong association of cannabis exposure and use with the onset and exacerbation of psychiatric disorders, especially with children, adolescents and young adults.**
- **Research on the benefits and harms of cannabis derivatives is critical to improving patient health and reducing harm.**
- **Cannabis products should have the same oversight as other FDA approved drug products.**