Cannabinoid Dentistry: current state and future perspectives

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Resume

Objetives. Carry out a systematic review of the literature, analyzing and synthesizing the available information about the current therapeutic possibilities of cannabinoids in dentistry.

Methods. To identify and obtain scientific articles, a search for articles up to December 2022 was carried out in the MEDLINE, Scopus, Scielo and Google Scholar databases. The following main keywords were used: “dental”, “dentistry”, “cannabis”, “cannabinoids”, “benefits”, “therapeutics”, “treatment”, “potential”.

Results. In the initial searches, a total of 834 records were found, of which 37 studies were included. According to its properties, cannabis could be used to control orofacial pain, as an anti-inflammatory and healing agent, bone tissue regenerator, antimicrobial in infection control, and in malignant lesions due to its antimetastatic capacity. In vitro and in vivo studies and clinical studies have been carried out, the latter being only 7. The therapies used have tested different types of cannabinoids and derivatives, both experimental and commercial.

Conclusions. Cannabinoids have been shown to be potentially effective in the treatment of various conditions and/or oral disorders, but their evidence is still scarce. More studies are needed to evaluate the therapeutic effects of cannabis and its purified derivatives directly on oral pathologies, as well as the effect of the different compositions, concentrations, and routes of administration.

Key words. Cannabis sativa, Cannabinoids, Oral health, medical cannabis.

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