

CANNABIS, ADDICTION, AND MENTAL HEALTH AFTER BRAIN INJURY

Treatment Trends, Need to Knows, Research and Clinical Best Practice.
for the Health Care Provider.



After brain injury, survivors will seek solutions to help resolve the lingering cognitive and emotional changes they experience. One of the solutions sought may be cannabis. With recent legalization of cannabis there is now easier access and less stigmatization of the product, and a renewed hope for recovery - but is this hope misplaced?



As most clinicians know: not all cannabis is created equal – some has positive impact, others negative. With increased access and common use of non-medical strains to self-medicate, it is timely for clinicians to become educated and understand their role in the process and the impact the product can have in the recovery of the brain injury survivor.

Keynote Address: ABC's of Medical Cannabis. Dr. Mark Kimmons, Medical Director - Sunniva (Calgary, Alberta).

Learn the current research that supports medical cannabis, how this differs from recreational cannabis, the role of cannabis after a brain injury (i.e. stroke, surgery, TBI, etc.) and role/expectation of the health care provider in the process.

Mental health and cognition after brain injury - Dr. Christopher Abeare, Neuropsychologist, University of Windsor.

How and why some emotional and behavioral changes tend to linger for years after the originating brain injury, regardless of cause; and how medicating may impact recovery.

Addiction and brain injury - Patrick Kolowicz, Director of Mental Health and Addiction, HDGH Health Care.

What are current trends with respect to addiction and brain injury in our region. And what supports and programming are available.

*speakers subject to change