PROTOCOL BRIEF

The effect of recreational cannabis use in people with diabetes: A rapid review

Rationale

Due to the recent legalization of cannabis in Canada there is a projected increase in the prevalence of cannabis consumption. Health care providers and other professionals working with people with diabetes are seeking guidance and resources to better understand cannabis effects on health outcomes. Synthesis and dissemination of existing evidentiary information on the topic of recreational cannabis use and diabetes are required to advance practice understanding and to ensure best practice decisions.

Implications

Results from this rapid review will inform citizens, health care providers, diabetes educators, and other key stakeholders and decision makers on the effects of recreational cannabis use on diabetes metabolic factors and self-management behaviours.

Link to protocol registration:
CRD42019122829

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Background

■ This rapid review will be undertaken to assist Diabetes Canada in establishing evidence-based recommendations for health care providers and diabetes educators regarding the effects of recreational cannabis in people with diabetes

Objective

■ To provide available evidence on the effects of recreational cannabis use on diabetes metabolic factors and self-management behaviours

Methodology

■ *Review design:* A rapid review

■ *Eligibility criteria (PICO):*

- *Population:* Individuals 13 years and older with any type of diabetes

- *Intervention/Exposure:* Recreational cannabis in any form (smoked, brewed or eaten)

- *Comparison:* Non-exposure to cannabis

- *Outcomes:* Any related to diabetes metabolic factors or self-management behaviours

- *Study Design:* Randomized controlled trials, quasi-randomized trials, non-randomized trials, controlled before after studies, interrupted time series studies as well as a cohort, case-control, and cross-sectional studies

■ *Literature search:* The literature search will be conducted by a library scientist in PubMed, EMBASE, and PsycINFO databases limiting to the last 10 years (2008-present) in order to meet the rapid review timelines

■ *Study Selection/Data Abstraction:*

- We plan to develop the study selection forms, and then perform a pilot-test on approximately 25 citations/full-text articles

- Reviewers will then independently screen title/abstract citations and full-text articles

- We will abstract relevant data from all included studies

■ *Synthesis:* We will conduct a descriptive synthesis of all data from selected studies. A meta-analysis of data will be considered, if feasible

Knowledge Translation Strategy

■ We anticipate supporting a wide communication channel through traditional and web-based strategies to reach citizens, practitioners, decision-makers and other stakeholders