What do we know (or need to know) about suppository administration of cannabis products

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Why would a patient/doctor opt for rectal/vaginal administration of a medication

- Palatability issues
- Severe nausea or vomiting
- Irritable Bowel/Crohn's Disease
- Compromised esophageal or gastrointestinal tracts
- Unconscious (e.g. rectal diazepam for status epilepticus)
- Spasticity in MS
- Targeted relief for local pain
 - Hemorrhoids
 - Menstrual pain
 - Painful sex
 - Interstitial Cystitis/Bladder Pain Syndrome (IC/BPS)
 - Pelvic pain
 - Sciatica



Mummy of Asru
Chantress of Amun
ca One Thousand BC





https://www.greenrush.com/blog/cannabissuppositories

Pharmacokinetics of suppositories of cannabis products

Findings of THC-HS suppository vs oral delivery

- Slower rise in plasma THC
- Prolonged activity
- Avoids first pass metabolism
- Reduced psychoactive effect

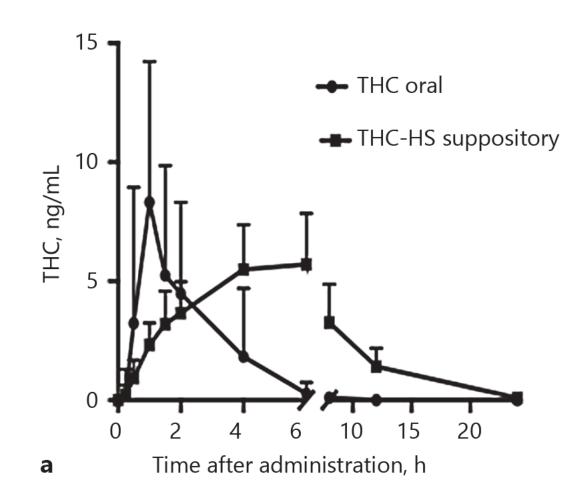
Preclinical Science and Clinical Studies – Research Article

Medical Cannabis

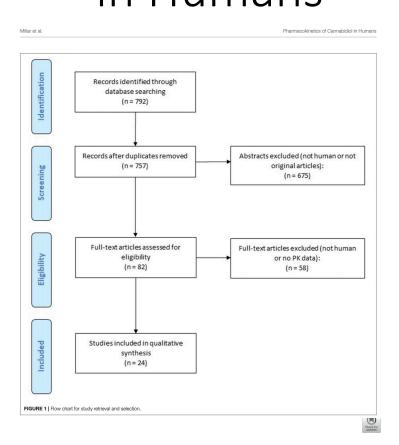
Med Cannabis Cannabinoids 2018;1:44–53

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Pharmacokinetics and Tolerability of Δ^9 -THC-Hemisuccinate in a Suppository Formulation as an Alternative to Capsules for the Systemic Delivery of Δ^9 -THC



A 2018 Systemic Review of Literature of CBD PK Found **No** Studies of Rectal/Vaginal Administration in Humans



A Systematic Review on the Pharmacokinetics of Cannabidiol in Humans

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Take Home Points

- Oral bioavailability of CBD is quite low
 - Extensive 1st pass metabolism
- I.V., smoking/inhalation fastest route of administration
- Distinct lack of human (and animal) studies of bioavailability, safety, and efficacy of suppositories for CBD

A smattering of preclinical experiments suggest efficacy of rectal administration of CBD

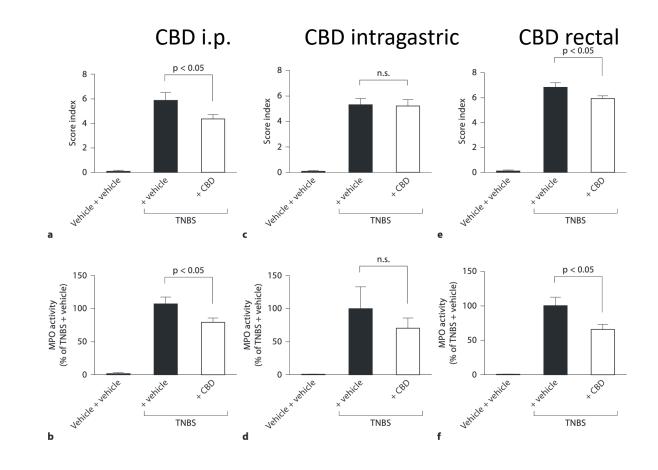
Pharmacology

Contribution on Cannabinoids

Pharmacology 2012;89:149–155 DOI: 10.1159/000336871 Received: January 13, 2012 Accepted: January 18, 2012 Published online: March 12, 2012

Topical and Systemic Cannabidiol Improves Trinitrobenzene Sulfonic Acid Colitis in Mice

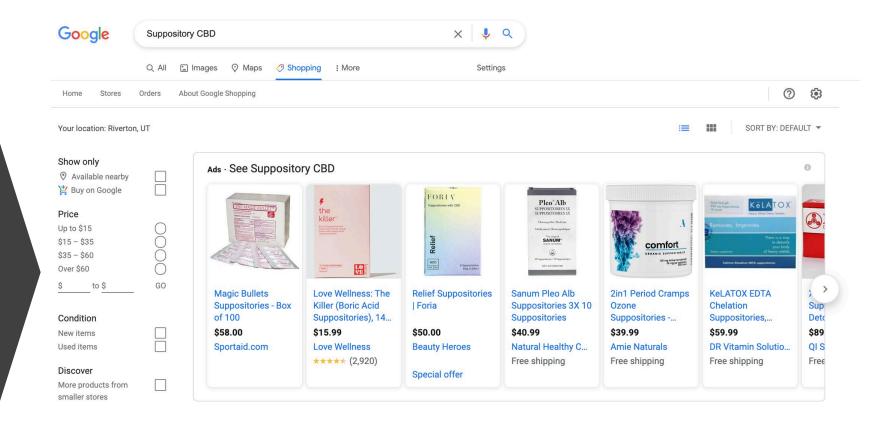
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Despite the lack of human studies....



DIY CBD Suppository Recipe for Vaginal or Rectal Issues

- 1.Ingredients. 1/4 cup cocoa butter. 1/4 cup coconut oil. Cibadol **CBD** isolate or **CBD** tincture.
- 2. Equipment. 1 suppository mold. 1 dropper. 1 small saucepan.
- 3.Directions. Combine your coconut oil and cocoa butter in a small saucepan. Melt over medium heat and stir to combine.

Where to go from here?

- More research is necessary to determine safety, efficacy, tolerability of suppositories with CBD
 - Preclinical and clinical
 - None that I could find an clinicaltrials.gov
- What should the consumer know?
 - Distinct lack of data
 - Consumer beware
 - Anecdotal information is plentiful, scientific information is sparse
- Thoughts? Concerns?