



## Scientists Discover Marijuana Helps Heal Broken Bones, & Even Makes Them Stronger (<http://realfarmacy.com/marijuana-for-broken-bones/>)



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A marijuana chemical known as cannabinoid cannabidiol (CBD) helps fractures heal faster and even make the bones stronger than they were before, according to a study conducted by researchers from *Tel Aviv University* and *Hebrew University* and published in the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*. CBD has no psychotropic effects.

“We found that CBD alone makes bones stronger during healing, enhancing the maturation of the collagenous matrix, which provides the basis for new mineralization of bone tissue,” researcher Yankel Gabet said. “After being treated with CBD, the healed bone will be harder to break in the future.”

## Bones contain cannabinoid receptors



The researchers inflicted mild femoral fractures on rats, then injected some of them with CBD, and others with CBD plus tetrahydrocannabinol (THC, the ingredient that causes the marijuana high). They then evaluated the healing of the rats, comparing them with rats who had not received any marijuana chemicals.

The researchers found that rats injected with CBD had the same effect whether or not it was accompanied by THC.

“We found CBD alone to be sufficiently effective in enhancing fracture healing,” Gabet said.





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“Other studies have also shown CBD to be a safe agent, which leads us to believe we should continue this line of study in clinical trials to assess its usefulness in improving human fracture healing.”

The study supported the same team’s prior findings that the body contains receptors that respond to cannabinoid compounds, and that these receptors are not confined to the brain.

“We only respond to cannabis because we are built with intrinsic compounds and receptors that can also be activated by compounds in the cannabis plant,” Gabet said.



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The prior study found that the skeleton contains cannabinoid receptors that stimulate bone formation and inhibit bone loss. The new study seems to confirm these findings.

## Medical marijuana benefits “undeniable”

The study is part of a growing body of research into the medical benefits of marijuana compounds, including CBD. The findings may lead to new research into ways that marijuana (<http://www.naturalnews.com/marijuana.html>) could be used to treat osteoporosis or other bone diseases.

“The clinical potential of cannabinoid-related compounds is simply undeniable at this point,” Gabet said.

“While there is still a lot of work to be done to develop appropriate therapies, it is clear that it is possible to detach a clinical therapy objective from the psychoactivity of cannabis. CBD (<http://www.naturalnews.com/CBD.html>), the principal agent in our study, is primarily anti-inflammatory and has no psychoactivity.”

The list of benefits to medical marijuana continues to grow. It is currently used primarily for chronic pain, to reduce side effects of chemotherapy and to improve appetite in AIDS patients. It has also shown promise in regulating blood sugar and slowing the progression of HIV. It is also being researched as a treatment for multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

Studies have shown that CBD suppresses seizures, stops the metastasis of many aggressive cancers and may even kill leukemia cells.

A 2013 study in the journal *Neuropsychopharmacology* found that CBD was just as effective as a popular antipsychotic drug in the treatment of schizophrenia and paranoia, but without the dangerous side effects. Other studies have confirmed the effectiveness of CBD as a safe antipsychotic.

Although marijuana remains technically illegal under U.S. federal law, it is legal to use CBD for research or for limited medical functions in 17 U.S. states. The medical use of marijuana itself is legal in 23 other states.

The federal government still classifies marijuana as having “no currently accepted medical use.” Yet even this may be starting to change. The FDA recently approved CBD extracts as an experimental treatment for Dravet syndrome, a rare form of childhood epilepsy. Preliminary clinical trials are now going forward.

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