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- Brain Degradation From Alcohol Treated With CBD Topical

Study: CBD-Based Topicals May Aid In Alcoholism Treatment



[Drake Dorm](#) September 13, 2013

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What Is CBD's Effect On Brain Degradation?

According to the [National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism \(NIAAA\)](#), alcohol can be linked to [neurodegradation](#), among other effects. Because [cannabidiol \(CBD\)](#) has been found to [fight degenerative diseases](#), a study published last week in *Pharmacology Biochemistry & Behavior* aimed to explore the effect of CBD topicals on alcohol-induced brain degradation.

The degradation associated with excess alcohol use is important, because some believe that the behavioral and cognitive deficits it causes can be linked to alcoholism's high relapse rate. The researchers, who were from the University of Kentucky, AllTranz Inc., and the University of Maryland, hoped to compare cannabidiol topicals with a direct injection of CBD.

Cannabidiol (CBD) Topicals May Be Equally As Effective

[Fluoro-Jade B \(FJB\)](#) is a "degenerative stain" that is used to signify cell degradation in the central nervous system. In looking at the levels of FJB in the brain, researchers were able to determine the effects of 3 different

cannabidiol gels (5% CBD, 2.5% CBD, and 1% CBD), and evaluate their neuroprotective properties.

“Cannabidiol (CBD) based topicals may represent a future aid for the treatment of alcoholism.”

The initial results inspired the researchers to create a second generation of 2.5% gel, and they compared it with a direct injection of cannabidiol. Rats who were not treated topically were injected with 40mg/kg of CBD every day, and the results were comparable. In fact, the topical CBD treatment had better results in terms of protecting the brain from degradation.

The American study suggests that topical cannabis extracts may be an equally effective method of introducing [cannabinoids](#) to the bloodstream. This is particularly interesting, because cannabidiol topicals would eliminate the carcinogens associated with smoking cannabis flowers, similar to [vaporizing](#) and [medicated edibles](#).

More studies are surely needed, but researchers believe that these results could be the beginning of a new aid for the treatment of alcoholism. Cannabis has been investigated for its reduction of [opiate withdrawal](#) symptoms, and it seems like it may expand it's rehabilitation repertoire in the form of cannabidiol topicals.



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