



Endocannabinoids: the Antiemetic

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Nausea & Vomiting

Vomiting

- ▶ Prevents the digestion of harmful substances
- ▶ Potential causes: medications, viral gastroenteritis, migraine + more

Nausea

- ▶ Has a low set point and can be activated easily
- ▶ Potential causes: anxiety, depression, feelings of disgust + more

(Echo, 2017)

The sensation of nausea is regulated by the endocannabinoid system.

CB1 receptors are found in areas of the brain involved in the nausea response.

THC reduces nausea through the CB1 receptors.

CBD regulates nausea through the 5Ht1 receptors.

There are indications in preclinical trials for the efficacy of THCA for the relief of nausea and vomiting.

How Does It Work?

(Backes, 2017)

In fact, cannabinoids have been proven most beneficial for cancer induced nausea and vomiting

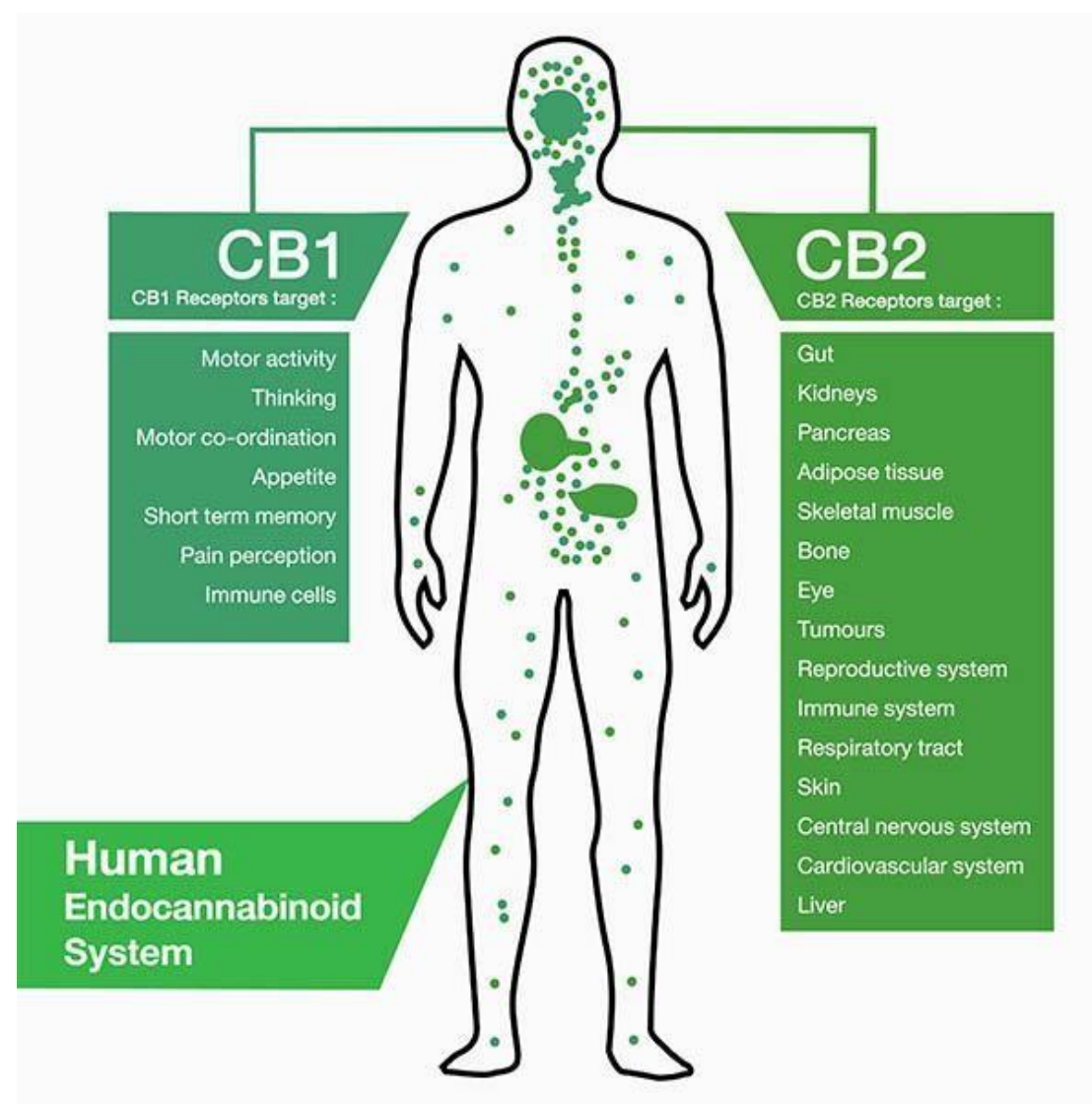
Cannabis is not therapeutic for all nausea and vomiting!

What does the evidence say?

- ▶ Through 2006, over 30 studies were conducted on the use of cannabinoids to treat nausea and vomiting effectively.
- ▶ Strong preclinical evidence and observational reports provide support for the use of cannabinoid-based medicines in both anticipatory and acute nausea.
- ▶ Small human studies have proven CBD to be helpful for nausea caused by anxiety.

(Backes, 2017)

Cannabinoid receptors are distributed widely across the body, including a significant concentration in the gastrointestinal (GI) tract. This presence directly influences the occurrence of nausea and its severity in patients.



Backes, M. (2017). *Cannabis Pharmacy: The practical guide to medical marijuana*. Black Dog & Leventhal.

The Role of Cannabinoids and the Endocannabinoid System in the Regulation of Nausea. (2017). *ECHO Connection*.

References