

Cannabis to treat gynecological conditions

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A significant number of women would consider using cannabis to treat gynecological conditions, primarily gynecological pain. Women with a history of cannabis use are reported in a study in *Journal of Women's Health*.

Women who self-medicate with cannabis do so to relieve [chronic pelvic pain](#), [menstrual cramps](#), and pain associated with gynecological cancer or [medical procedures](#) such as abortion.

"A larger proportion of women who reported ever using cannabis were willing to use cannabis to treat conditions commonly seen in gynecological practices compared to never-users (91.6% vs. 64.6%)," states Leo Han, MD, MPH, and coauthors, from Oregon Health & Science University. This difference was statistically significant.

"Coinciding with the increased perception of cannabis safety is the increased national recognition of the dangers of opioid pain medications," says the authors.

"In this study, a large proportion of those women who had never used [cannabis](#) were willing to try it to treat gynecological pain. Fewer, but still a substantial percentage, would use it for procedural pain or other gynecological conditions," says *Journal of Women's Health* Editor-in-Chief Susan G. Kornstein, MD, Executive Director of the Virginia Commonwealth University Institute for Women's Health, Richmond, VA.

More information: Douglas Bruce et al, Gender Differences in Medical Cannabis Use: Symptoms Treated, Physician Support for Use, and Prescription Medication Discontinuation, *Journal of Women's Health* (2020). [DOI: 10.1089/jwh.2020.8437](https://doi.org/10.1089/jwh.2020.8437)

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc

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