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Medical cannabis, the endocannabinoid system and neuroprotection

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The 600 million year old Endo Cannabinoid System (ECS) emerged as an early biological harm reduction system. The ECS maintains a constantly adaptive receptor system that functions as a biological scanning system, detecting biochemical information in the extracellular matrix. The ECS is the densest of all receptor systems in the CNS, performing a myriad of vital functions. All types of cannabinoids protect neurons from multiple insults that produce neuronal death after TBI, including free radical production, neuroinflammation, excite-toxicity and calcium influx. In humans, ECS coordination is integral to both health promotion and disease prevention. As a stress reduction system, the ECS responds positively not only to cannabinoids, but also to diet, lifestyle and physical medicine interventions. The variable nature of the ECS dictates a patient-centered dosing paradigm and necessitates a time-intensive, education-based approach to care.

Biography

Felice writes and develops educational materials, including instructional videos, for cannabis education curricula for academic institutions and private businesses such as *Seattle Central College*, and *Medical Marijuana 411*, a nationally recognized cannabis educator. His CME cannabis courses for doctors and pharmacists have now been translated into three languages. He is available for speaking and training seminars for both industry and academia. Dr. Felice continues to develop and write continuing education classes for physicians and nurses, including for the *American Academy of Cannabinoid Medicine (AACM)* and the *Washington Association for Naturopathic Physicians (WANP)* and *Medical Marijuana 411*. Dr. Felice is one of the few industry experts in the area of topical cannabis.

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