MEDICAMENT
MEDICAL MARIJUANA RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2025

WELCOME TO MEDICAMENT,

the Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research's quarterly newsletter.

The Consortium, founded by the State of Florida, conducts, disseminates, and supports research on the use and effects of medical marijuana on patient outcomes.

In the Spring 2025 issue of MEDICAMENT:

- FL House Presentation
- USF Joins the Consortium
- Annual Report 2024-2025
- Cannabis Working Group
- Announcing CCORC Keynotes
- Register for CCORC
- Research Grants Program 2025
- MEMORY Updates
- Medical Marijuana and Me (M³)
- Evidence & Research Updates
- Journal Corner
- Get Involved in Research

Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research

To learn more about the Consortium and our programs, visit us at mmjoutcomes.org.

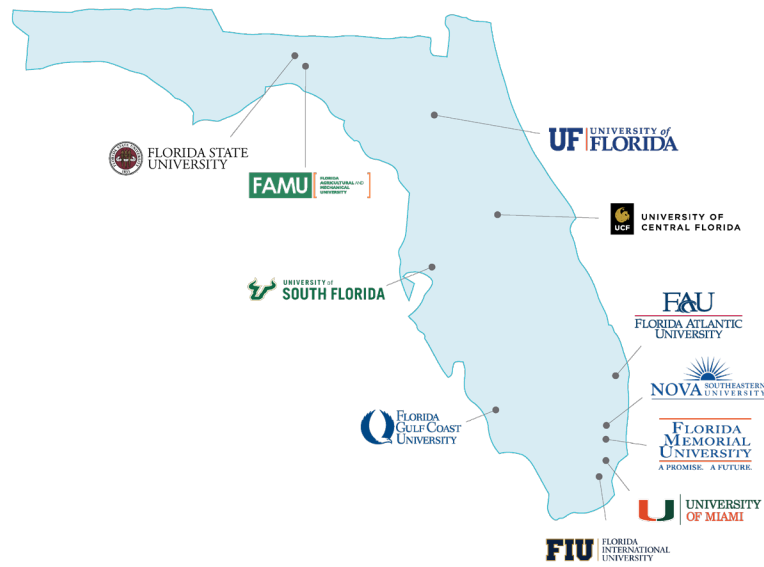## CONSORTIUM DIRECTOR PRESENTS REPORT TO FLORIDA HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE

Presentation Provided to Florida House Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee

On February 4, 2025, Consortium Director Almut Winterstein, RPh, PhD, FISPE, presented a report on Consortium programs and activities to the Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee of the Florida House of Representatives. The presentation included updates on ongoing studies and data insights highlighting trends in medical marijuana use among certified children, adolescents, and young adults, along with the characteristics of physician-reported adverse events. An archived recording of the presentation can be accessed here.

Note: Dr. Winterstein's presentation begins at 40:48.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA JOINS THE CONSORTIUM

The Consortium is excited to announce that University of South Florida (USF) has joined as its eleventh member institution. USF will be represented on the Consortium board by Troy Quast, PhD.

Dr. Quast is a professor at the USF College of Public Health. His research interests include the impact of economic conditions on health status, Medicaid policy, and the impact of natural disasters on health status and the utilization of health services.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025

Consortium Releases Annual Report

In February, the Consortium released its sixth annual report detailing its accomplishments during 2024-2025 and presenting plans for future initiatives within each of the Consortium's five pillars: the Grants Program, MEMORY, Clinical Core, Evidence Core, and Outreach.

Read the Annual Report here >

CANNABIS WORKING GROUP

Inviting Researchers to Participate in the Cannabis Working Group

JOIN THE CANNABIS WORKING GROUP

We invite researchers to participate in the Cannabis Working Group, a collaborative space for dialogue and sharing knowledge.

For more information email mmj.outcomes@cop.ufl.edu

Over the past months, the Cannabis Working Group has conducted online discussions on key topics in cannabis research, engaging with researchers from across the U.S. The group has hosted four leading experts in the field, each bringing unique perspectives:

• **Dr. Michelle Lent** from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine shared experiences for measuring the Health-Related Quality of Life among cannabis users in Philadelphia and discussed how Pennsylvania's state initiatives link medical cannabis clinics with academic and research institutions to advance research.

• **Dr. Omayma Alshaarawy** from Michigan State University introduced innovative remote sampling techniques, demonstrating how smart devices enable self-administered blood draws at home for measuring blood cannabinoid levels.

• **Dr. Alyssa Vanderziel** from Henry Ford Health, Center for Health Policy and Health Services Research, gave important tips on engaging with clinicians in cannabis research and improving recruitment.

• **Dr. Tony Ferrari**, Chemist, explained the regulatory challenges in obtaining approval for cannabis products before initiating clinical trials.

In addition to the monthly presentations with experts in the field of cannabis research, the working group holds dedicated sessions for students and postdocs every month. These sessions offer a collaborative and supportive space where early-career researchers can share updates, seek feedback, and discuss innovative approaches, such as implementing rapid street surveys across Florida. These conversations have triggered valuable exchanges and strengthened this research network.

Please contact mmj.outcomes@cop.ufl.edu for more information. To be informed of future meetings and zoom information, please sign up for the Cannabis Working Group listserv.

ANNOUNCING CCORC 2025 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Three Top Experts in Cannabis Research Confirmed to Present at Annual Conference

Angela Bryan, PhD
University of Colorado Boulder | Psychology and Neuroscience
Title of Presentation: *Effects of Edible Cannabis Use on Pain, Sleep, and Mood*

Dr. Angela Bryan is a Professor and Associate Chair for Faculty Development in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of Colorado Boulder. She is co-director of the CU Center for Health and Neuroscience, Genes, and Environment. Dr. Bryan's research focuses on a transdisciplinary approach to the study of health and risk behavior, and the development of theory-based interventions to improve health behaviors.

Rachel Tomko, PhD
Medical University of South Carolina | Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Title of Presentation: *Rethinking Cannabis Use Disorder Treatment: Individualized Risks, Benefits, and Care*

Dr. Rachel Tomko is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Medical University of South Carolina. Dr. Tomko's research focuses on individual differences in response to cannabis to determine who is at risk of developing cannabis use disorder as a result of non-medical use. Ongoing work includes examining sex and gender-specific recommendations for low-risk non-medical cannabis use and more.

Sara Jane Ward, PhD
Temple University | Center for Substance Abuse Research
Title of Presentation: *Developing Cannabis-Based Treatments for Chemotherapy-Induced Peripheral Neuropathy and Adjuvant Anti-Tumor Activity*

Dr. Sara Jane Ward is a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of Neural Sciences and Center for Substance Abuse Research at Temple University Lewis Katz School of Medicine. Current research in her laboratory focuses on investigating the therapeutic potential of non-psychoactive cannabinoids and terpenes using animal models of pain, neuroinflammation and substance use disorders.

CCORC 2025 REGISTRATION OPEN
Take Advantage of Early Bird Pricing Until April 4, 2025

CCORC

CANNABIS CLINICAL OUTCOMES RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2025

MAY 29–30, 2025 | ORLANDO, FL

Learn, Share, and Advance Medical Marijuana Research

MORE INFORMATION AT CCORC.MMJOUTCOMES.ORG

REGISTER HERE

RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM
2025 Grants Program: Letters of Intent and Proposals

The Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research received 38 letters of interest (LOI) from faculty from eight of its member institutions, in response to its seventh Request for Proposals (RFP) for the 2025 Research Grants Program.

After review and Board approval, the Principal Investigators of 35 LOIs were invited for full proposal submission.

The deadline for invited full proposal submission is April 3rd, 2025, at 11:59 PM EST via email to mmj.outcomes@cop.ufl.edu. The Consortium will announce final decisions regarding funding by July 1st, 2025.
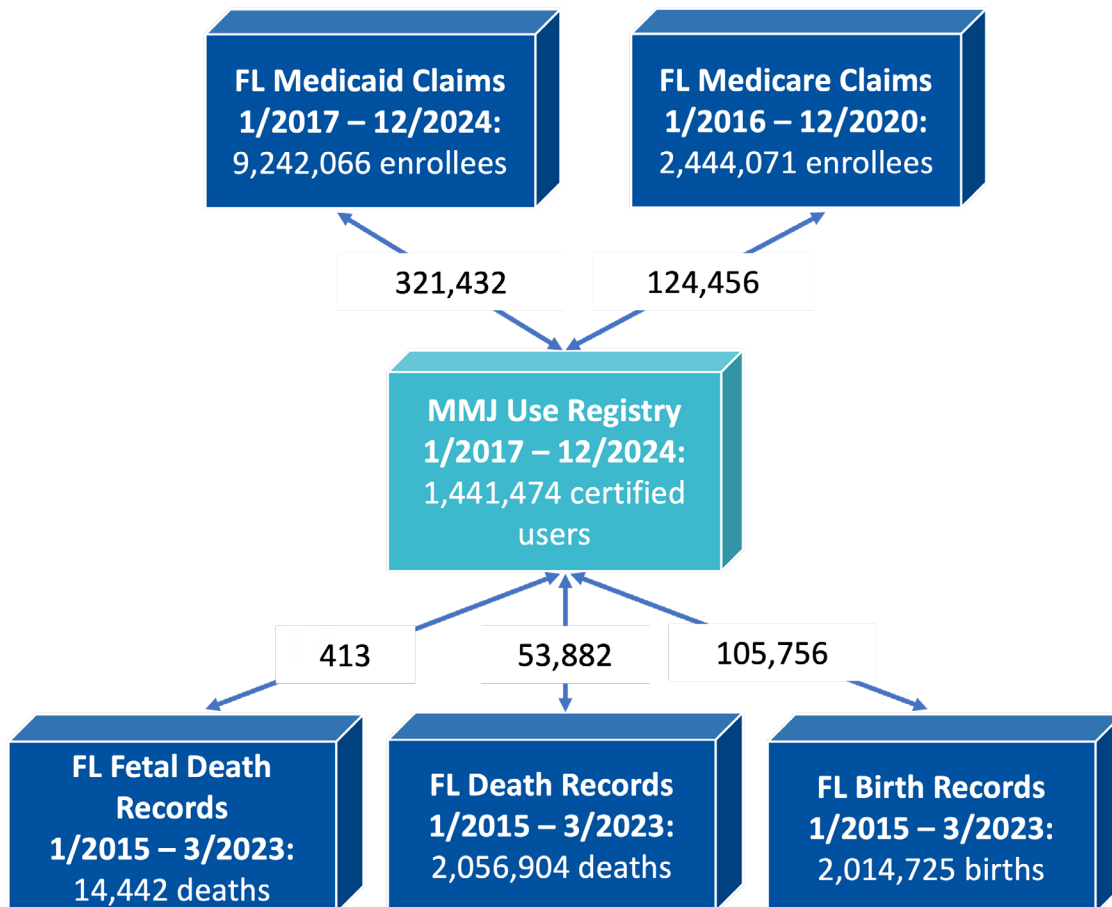
MEM🌼RY UPDATES

Ongoing Linkages Within the MEMORY Database

MEMORY (MEdical Marijuana clinical Outcomes RepositorY) is a unique interlinked database which includes all registered medical marijuana users in Florida, allowing the investigation of medical marijuana related clinical outcomes and policy research.

The MEMORY analytics team is currently working on extending the database to include data until December 2024 from the Medical Marijuana Use Registry (MMUR) and Florida Medicaid Administrative Billing Records.

The tables below show the total number of unique individuals in different databases integrated in MEMORY and the number of unique individuals linked with MMUR data to date.

Read more about MEMORY >

```
┌──────────────────────┐          ┌──────────────────────┐
│ FL Medicaid Claims   │          │ FL Medicare Claims   │
│ 1/2017 – 12/2024:    │          │ 1/2016 – 12/2020:    │
│ 9,242,066 enrollees  │          │ 2,444,071 enrollees  │
└──────────────────────┘          └──────────────────────┘
          321,432                        124,456

              ┌──────────────────────┐
              │ MMJ Use Registry     │
              │ 1/2017 – 12/2024:    │
              │ 1,441,474 certified  │
              │ users                │
              └──────────────────────┘
        413           53,882          105,756

┌──────────────┐  ┌──────────────────┐  ┌──────────────────┐
│ FL Fetal     │  │ FL Death Records │  │ FL Birth Records │
│ Death        │  │ 1/2015 – 3/2023: │  │ 1/2015 – 3/2023: │
│ Records      │  │ 2,056,904 deaths │  │ 2,014,725 births │
│ 1/2015 –     │  │                  │  │                  │
│ 3/2023:      │  │                  │  │                  │
│ 14,442 deaths│  │                  │  │                  │
└──────────────┘  └──────────────────┘  └──────────────────┘
```

Total numbers by data source and the total number of linked individuals.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA & ME UPDATE
Upcoming Presentation at CPDD 2025

The Clinical Core will present key findings from the M^3 study at the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) Scientific Meeting 2025, taking place June 14–18 in New Orleans.
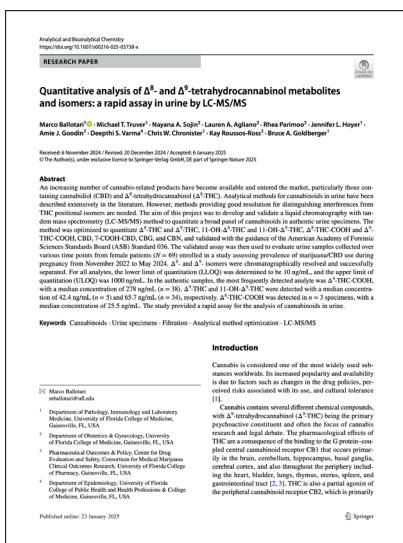
Juan G. Perez has been accepted for an oral presentation on "Cannabis Use and Sleep: Factors Influencing Good Sleep Quality." His talk will highlight sleep quality patterns among 1,234 participants in the M^3 study, examining differences in participant characteristics between those with good versus poor sleep quality.

Additionally, Dr. Catalina Lopez-Quintero will present a poster titled "Associations between Trajectories of Generalized Anxiety Disorder Symptoms and Medical Cannabis Products Used among Adults in Florida." Her work explores how medical cannabis products influence anxiety symptoms across different trajectories.

If you're attending CPDD 2025, please join us for this opportunity to engage in discussions and explore the implications of these findings for the field.

EVIDENCE AND RESEARCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Publication from Consortium-Affiliated Researchers: Quantitative analysis of Δ8- and Δ9-tetrahydrocannabinol metabolites and isomers: a rapid assay in urine by LC-MS/MS
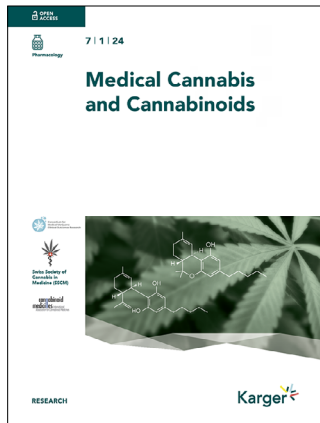
An increasing number of cannabis-related products have become available and entered the market, particularly those containing cannabidiol (CBD) and Δ8-tetrahydrocannabinol (Δ8-THC) and methods providing good resolution for distinguishing interferences from THC positional isomers are needed.

The aim of this project was to develop and validate a liquid chromatography with tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS) method to quantitate a broad panel of cannabinoids in authentic urine specimens. The method was optimized to quantitate Δ8-THC and Δ9-THC, 11-OH-Δ8-THC and 11-OH-Δ9-THC, Δ8-THC-COOH and Δ9-THC-COOH, CBD, 7-COOH-CBD, CBG, and CBN, and validated with the guidance of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences Standards Board (ASB) Standard 036. The validated assay was then used to evaluate urine samples collected over various time points from female patients (N = 69) enrolled in a study assessing prevalence of marijuana/CBD use during pregnancy from November 2022 to May 2024.

[Read the full article here >](#)

JOURNAL CORNER
Updates from Karger, Publisher of the Consortium's Official Journal

Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids is the official journal of the Consortium, offering an international forum to investigate cannabis safety and effectiveness when used for medical purposes. This series in the newsletter, Journal Corner, provides updates, information and resources from the journal publisher, Karger.

Call for Papers: [Minor Cannabinoids and Terpenes in Medical Cannabis: Unlocking the Potential](#)

While THC and CBD are well-known, the cannabis plant contains over 180 cannabinoids and numerous terpenes, most of which remain understudied. Recent research suggests that compounds such as CBG, CBC, CBN, and THCV, along with various terpenes, exhibit distinct therapeutic properties, yet comprehensive reviews and studies on these compounds are critically lacking. This article collection seeks to address key gaps in our understanding of lesser-known cannabinoids and terpenes, their medical benefits and risks, and their potential roles in therapeutic applications.

For this collection, the journal encourages submissions that:
- Investigate the therapeutic potential of CBG, CBC, CBN, THCV, and other minor cannabinoids
- Explore the medical benefits and risks of these compounds.
- Provide an overview of minor cannabinoids and terpenes: Their chemistry and pharmacology
- Examine synergistic effects of cannabinoids and terpenes (the "entourage effect")
- Discuss regulatory and safety considerations for the use of these compounds
- Propose future research directions and therapeutic applications

The Latest Published Study from Consortium Members
- [Patients' Perceptions of Cannabis Contamination in Florida's Medical Program](#) (Gabriel Spandau, Jamie Loizzo, Hannah Jury, James C. Bunch, Nicole Stedman, Brian Pearson, Amie J. Goodin). Med Cannabis Cannabinoids 2025; 8:15-30; DOI 10.1159/000542929)

Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids at a Glance
- Official journal of the Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research
- Consortium members are eligible for an **APC discount of 50%** on accepted articles
- Open Access
- Indexed in PMC, DOAJ, Scopus
- CiteScore: 6.0

For more information or questions about *Medical Cannabis and Cannabinoids*, visit the [journal website](#) or contact: Alan Tootle, Publication Manager, a.tootle@karger.com.

GET INVOLVED IN RESEARCH

CARMMA: Changing the way we collaborate across the state of Florida

The [Connect and Advance Research for Medical Marijuana Analysis (CARMMA) Database](#) is accessible to researchers, physicians, and industry collaborators.

We believe collaborations bring research advancements. The CARMMA Database connects researchers, clinicians, and industry to foster medical marijuana research.

Anyone interested in engaging in medical marijuana research is invited to [register in CARMMA](#) to find collaborators.

JOIN THE CARMMA DATABASE

Have news or feedback to share? Let us know!

Share your Consortium-related research and news through our [submission form](#).

Share your comments on our newsletter through our [feedback form](#).

Don't want to miss any MEDICAMENT issues?

Share your contact information through our [newsletter sign-up form](#).

[Read previous MEDICAMENT issues on our website.](#)

Consortium for Medical Marijuana Clinical Outcomes Research