

SYMPOSIUM REPORT

“ACTUALIZACIÓN SOBRE LAS APLICACIONES TERAPEUTICAS DE LOS CANNABINOIDES” “UPDATE ON THE THERAPEUTIC APPLICATIONS OF CANNABINOIDS”

ORGANIZERS: Observatorio Colombiano Cannabis Medicinal – OCCM- Programa de Química Farmacéutica, Universidad CES (Medellín, Colombia)

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Location: CES University, Medellín (Colombia)

Dates: 26th-28th April 2018

With the support of: ISN (CAEN, CATEGORY 2C); Instituto Universitario de Investigación Neuroquímica; Pharmacielo; Universidad CES.

The course was held during the three scheduled days at CES University (Medellin), with the assistance of 38 MDs and clinicians interested in the potential benefits of cannabinoids use in the symptomatology of nervous system disorders, and the basis of the mechanism of action of cannabinoid signalling. In addition, several representative of the legislative authorities (INVIMA (pharmaceutical drug approval Colombian authority) and Junta Nacional de Estupefacientes (Drug control authority) also attended the course in order to gain knowledge and training on cannabis and cannabinoids uses and consequences.

The final program is provided as attachment together with various pictures of the school and list of participants. Speakers used their time to provide the general ideas of the different topics and the conferences were followed by active discussion and many question by attendees. This is one of the aspects in which the organizers are more satisfied. There was an evident interest by participants to learn about the endocannabinoid system role in the pathophysiology of the nervous system as well as its implications in health and disease. The speakers provided their lectures in a pdf file, and this was put together with a couple of review articles of the topic. All the materials of the school are in a dropbox folder that was facilitated to the students for in deep reading and expanding their knowledge.

We highlight here some of the main topics and speakers of the symposium:

i) Basic Science of Cannabinoids and mechanism of action. Neuromodulation and neuronal hiperexcitability, cognition, regulation of food intake, oncology, neurodevelopment, neurodegenerative diseases, absorption and pharmacodynamics...

- Manuel Guzmán (UCM-CIBERNED, Madrid); Ismael Galve-Roperh (UCM-CIBERNED, Madrid); David Galvis (CES University, Colombia)

ii) Therapeutic applications of cannabinoids. Pain regulation, integrative medicine and cannabinoids, HIV and oncology patients, schizophrenia and psychosis...

- Leticia Cuñetti, MD (SUEN, Uruguay); Christopher Spooner, MD (Canada); Orlando Carreño Moreno (MD, Colombia); Paola Pineda (MD, Colombia); Guillermo A. Castaño MD (CES University, Colombia)

iii) From the plant to the bench. Good manufacturing process, cannabinoid dosing and delivery methods, quality of cannabinoid extracts, Colombian legal aspects...

- Marcelo Antunes de Siqueira (Brazil); Andres Lopez (Colombian Government representative); John Reyes (MD, Puerto Rico)

As requested by ISN when providing the aid to held this course, the financial support was employed to cover fellowships to allow students to participate (2.000 USD) and expenses of international speakers (3.500 USD).

In summary, the OCCM is highly satisfied with the experience of the symposium on the therapeutic uses of cannabinoids and the proper training of the medical community interested on their applications. Based on the good perception by students, academic and visitors of the school we would like to expand this experience to a broader and more in deep course of cannabinoid signalling and its regulatory role in the pathophysiological function of the nervous system. The OCCM team and collaborators will work in the following months to elaborate such expanded course with an estimated duration of 70-90 hours to be held in 2019.

SIGNED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'I. Galve-Roperh', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Ismael Galve-Roperh