Marijuana compound CBD could help people fight opioid addiction

A new study out [May 21] is the latest to suggest that cannabis—or at least a key ingredient of it—might help people struggling with addiction. It found that people with opioid use disorder experienced less symptoms of craving when given cannabidiol, or CBD, over a placebo.

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[Researchers] recruited 42 men and women who had been living with opioid use disorder, specifically heroin, but were currently not using the drug. Half were randomly given pills containing CBD (actually just Epidiolex), in two dosages, while the rest took a placebo. Then, over the course of a week, the volunteers had to watch three-minute long videos either containing nothing but neutral images, like nature sounds, or videos featuring drug paraphernalia like syringes or bags of powder meant to look like heroin.

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The test subjects were given CBD for three days, and they were tested for post-video craving and anxiety symptoms immediately after they took a pill, a day after a CBD session, and a week after the last session. Across these scenarios, the researchers found, people on CBD reported less craving and anxiety on average than the placebo group.

Read full, original post: CBD Might Help People Struggling With Opioid Addiction, Small Trial Shows