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Cannabinoid receptors as therapeutic targets.

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Abstract

CB1 and CB2 cannabinoid receptors are the primary targets of endogenous cannabinoids (endocannabinoids). These G protein-coupled receptors play an important role in many processes, including metabolic regulation, craving, pain, anxiety, bone growth, and immune function. Cannabinoid receptors can be engaged directly by agonists or antagonists, or indirectly by manipulating endocannabinoid metabolism. In the past several years, it has become apparent from preclinical studies that therapies either directly or indirectly influencing cannabinoid receptors might be clinically useful. This review considers the components of the endocannabinoid system and discusses some of the most promising endocannabinoid-based therapies.

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Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances, Grant Support

Publication Types

- Research Support, N.I.H., Extramural
- Review

MeSH Terms

- Amidohydrolases/metabolism
- Animals
- Biological Transport, Active/drug effects
- Cannabis/chemistry
- Drug Therapy*
- Endocannabinoids/metabolism
- Endocannabinoids/physiology*
- Humans
- Neuronal Plasticity/physiology
- Receptors, Cannabinoid/agonists
- Receptors, Cannabinoid/antagonists & inhibitors
- Receptors, Cannabinoid/drug effects*

- Tetrahydrocannabinol/pharmacology

Substances

- Endocannabinoids
- Receptors, Cannabinoid
- Tetrahydrocannabinol
- Amidohydrolases
- fatty-acid amide hydrolase

Grant Support

- DA 000286/DA/NIDA NIH HHS/United States

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Other Literature Sources

- COS Scholar Universe

Molecular Biology Databases

- TETRAHYDROCANNABINOL - HSDB

Related citations

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