

Does Cannabis Use Before Partnered Sex Help Women Who Report Orgasm Difficulty?

Suzanne Mulvehill, MBA, BSW

Jordan Tishler, MD



Suzanne Mulvehill, MBA, BSW
Clinical Sexologist
PhD Candidate
Director, Female Orgasm Research Institute

President, Association of Cannabinoid Specialists
Harvard Medical School
President, CEO, inhaleMD

INTRODUCTION

Up to 41% of women experience orgasm difficulty,¹ a statistic unchanged for 50 years.² A paucity of validated treatments exists.^{3,4} Researchers have suggested cannabis as a treatment for female orgasm difficulty and other sexual disorders for nearly 50 years. ⁵⁻⁷

OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the effect of cannabis use before partnered sex on women with and without orgasm difficulty.

METHODS

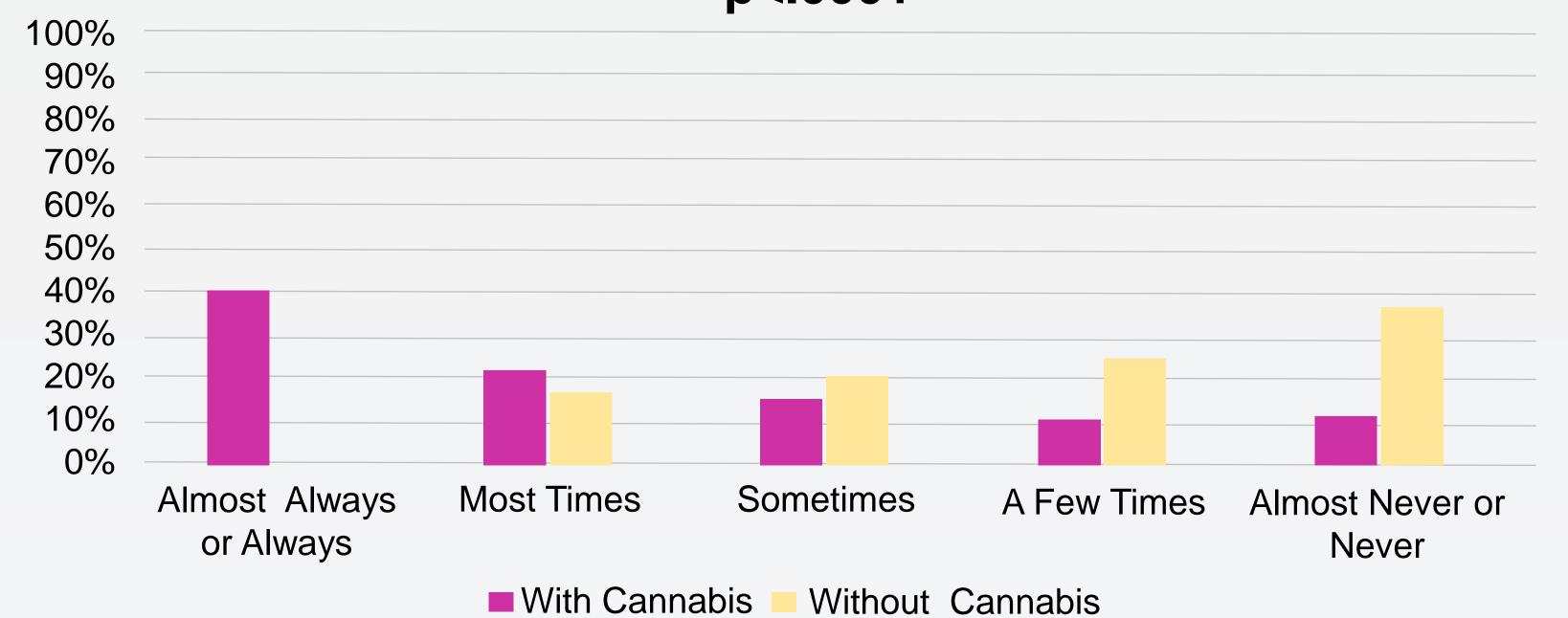
This IRB-approved observational study conducted between March and November, 2022, included 387 females, 52% (n-202) of whom reported orgasm difficulty during partnered sex. An anonymous, uncompensated 41-question online survey evaluated baseline demographics, sexual behavior, and cannabis use. Orgasm frequency, orgasm difficulty, and orgasm satisfaction were measured with and without cannabis use before partnered sex using the orgasm subscale questions of the Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI).8

FINDINGS

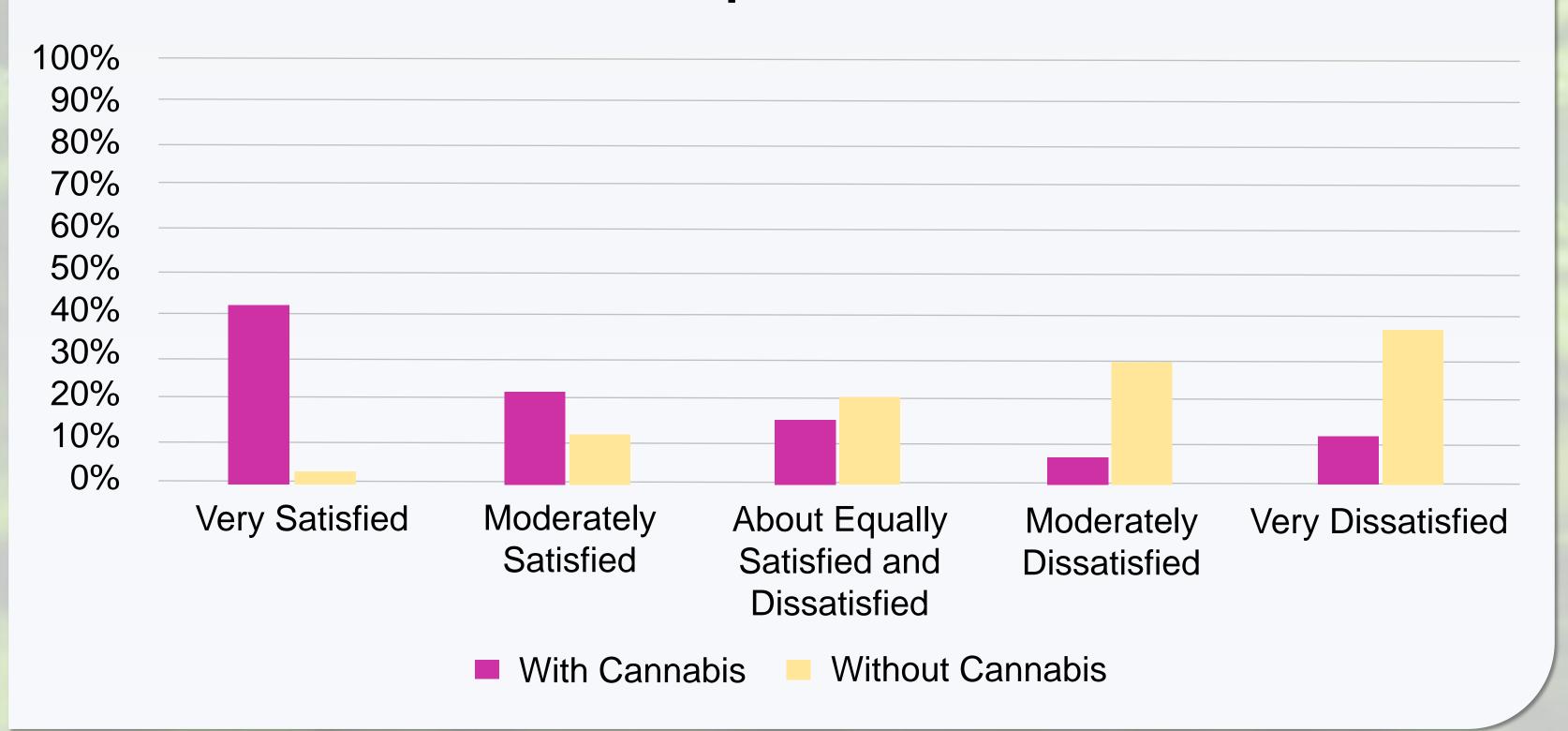
- ❖ Increased Orgasm Frequency 72.8% (147/202, p<.0001) of women with orgasm difficulty reported increased orgasm frequency when using cannabis before partnered sex.
- ❖ Increased Orgasm Ease 71% (143/202, p<.001) of women with orgasm difficulty reported it was easier to orgasm when using cannabis before partnered sex.</p>
- ❖ Increased Orgasm Satisfaction 67% (136/202, p<.0001) of women with orgasm difficulty reported increased orgasm satisfaction when using cannabis before partnered sex.

STATISTICS





Orgasm Satisfaction For Women with Orgasm Difficulty With and Without Cannabis Before Partnered Sex p<.0001



FINDINGS

- Among women who "almost never or never orgasm" without cannabis, 28.7% (n=58/202, p<.0001) experienced orgasm when using cannabis before partnered sex.
- ❖ The frequency of cannabis use before partnered sex increased the frequency of orgasm for women with orgasm difficulty (p<001).</p>
- ❖ Women with or without orgasm difficulty who reported a mental health diagnosis (n=231/287, p=.004) or a sexual abuse history (n=125/387, p=.003), had a statistically significant more positive orgasm response when using cannabis before sex.

CONCLUSION

Cannabis-based treatment deserves further exploration into treatment for women who experience orgasm difficulty. Randomized-controlled studies should follow this observational study to evaluate the efficacy of cannabis in treating women who have orgasm difficulty.

REFERENCES

- 1.Laumann, E. O., Nicolosi, A., Glasser, D. B., Paik, A., Gingell, C., Moreira, E., & Wang, T. (2005). Sexual problems among women and men aged 40–80 y: Prevalence and correlates identified in the *Global Study of Sexual Attitudes and Behaviors*. *International Journal of Impotence Research*, 17(1), 39–57. https://doi.org/10.1038/sj.ijir.3901250
- 2.Kontula, O., & Miettinen, A. (2016). Determinants of female sexual orgasms. *Socioaffective Neuroscience & Psychology*, 6(1), 31624. https://doi.org/10.3402/snp.v6.31624
- 3.Heiman, J. R., & Meston, M. M. (1997). Empirically validated treatment for sexual dysfunction. *Annual Review of Sex Research*, 8(1), 148–194.
- 4.Marchand, E. (2020). Psychological and behavioral treatment of female orgasmic disorder. *Sexual Medicine Reviews*, *9*(2), 194–211. https://www.doi.org/10.1016/j.sxmr.2020.07.007
- 5.Dawley, H. H., Baxter, A. S., Winstead, D. K., & Gay, J. R. (1979). An attitude survey of the effects of marijuana on sexual enjoyment. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 35*(1), 212–217. https://www.doi.org/10.1002/1097-4679(197901)35:13.0.co;2-k
- 6.Gorzalka, B. B., Hill, M. N., & Chang, S. C. (2010). Male–female differences in the effects of cannabinoids on sexual behavior and gonadal hormone function. *Hormones and Behavior*, *58*(1), 91–99.
- https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yhbeh.2009.08.009
- 7.Lewis, B. (1970). The sexual power of marijuana. Wyden.
- 8.Rosen, R., Brown, C., Heiman, J., Leiblum, S., Meston, C., Shabsigh, R., Ferguson, D., & D'Agostino, R. (2000). The Female Sexual Function Index (FSFI): A multidimensional self-report instrument for the assessment of female sexual function. *Journal of Sex & Marital Therapy, 26*(2), 191–208. https://doi.org/10.1080/009262300278597

Contact Us:

info@femaleorgasmresearch.org www.femaleorgasmresearch.org www.cannaspecialists.org