

Priorities for Medical Marijuana Research from the Perspective of physicians, Dispensary Owners/staff, and Patients: A Survey Study

Medical marijuana stakeholders perceived a broad range in research topics as priorities.

The top priority conditions were chronic pain, cancer, and anxiety.

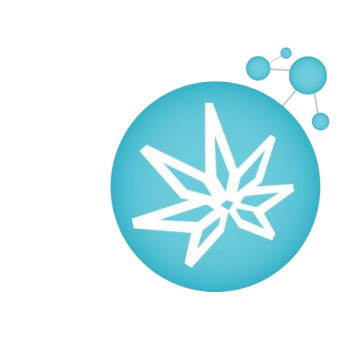
The top priority safety issues were dosing/product choice, complications from smoking/vaping, and drug interactions.

The top priority marijuana types were different THC/CBD ratios, different modes of consumption, and terpenes.

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Objective

- To determine the priorities for medical marijuana research from the perspective of multiple stakeholders including patients, clinicians, and industry representatives.

Methods

- An anonymous survey was administered to attendees of the 2019 American Medical Marijuana Physicians Association annual meeting in Orlando, Florida.
- Surveys were completed on paper or smartphone via Qualtrics.
- The survey included questions on demographics and medical marijuana research priorities under the following broad categories: clinical conditions, safety issues, marijuana types, populations, and other.

Results

- 46 participants (56.5% female, mean age = 51.6±14.1) responded to the survey.
- Majority were medical marijuana qualified physicians in Florida (56.5%), 30.5% other physician or clinician, and 21.7% medical marijuana patients.
- Top clinical conditions prioritized for research by this group were chronic pain (3.7±0.7), cancer (3.5±0.8) and anxiety (3.4±0.8) (Figure 1).
- Top priority safety issues were dosing/product choice (3.7±0.5), complications from smoking/vaping (3.6±0.7), and drug interactions (3.5±0.6) (Figure 2).
- Top priority for marijuana types were research on THC/CBD ratios (3.5±0.7), different modes of consumption (3.4±0.7), and terpenes (3.4±0.7) (Figure 3).
- Research topics under population were all perceived as important.

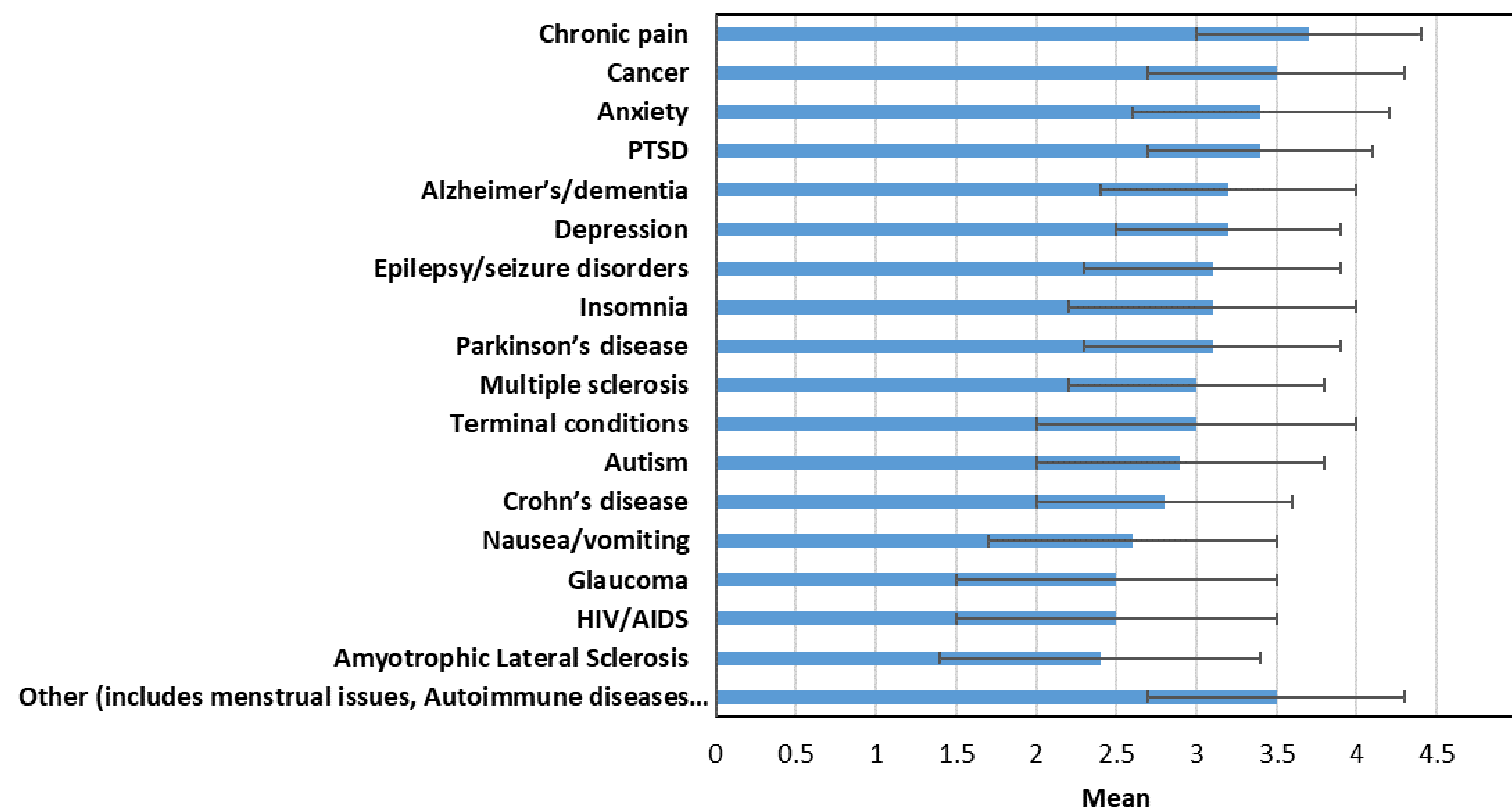


Figure 1: Clinical conditions

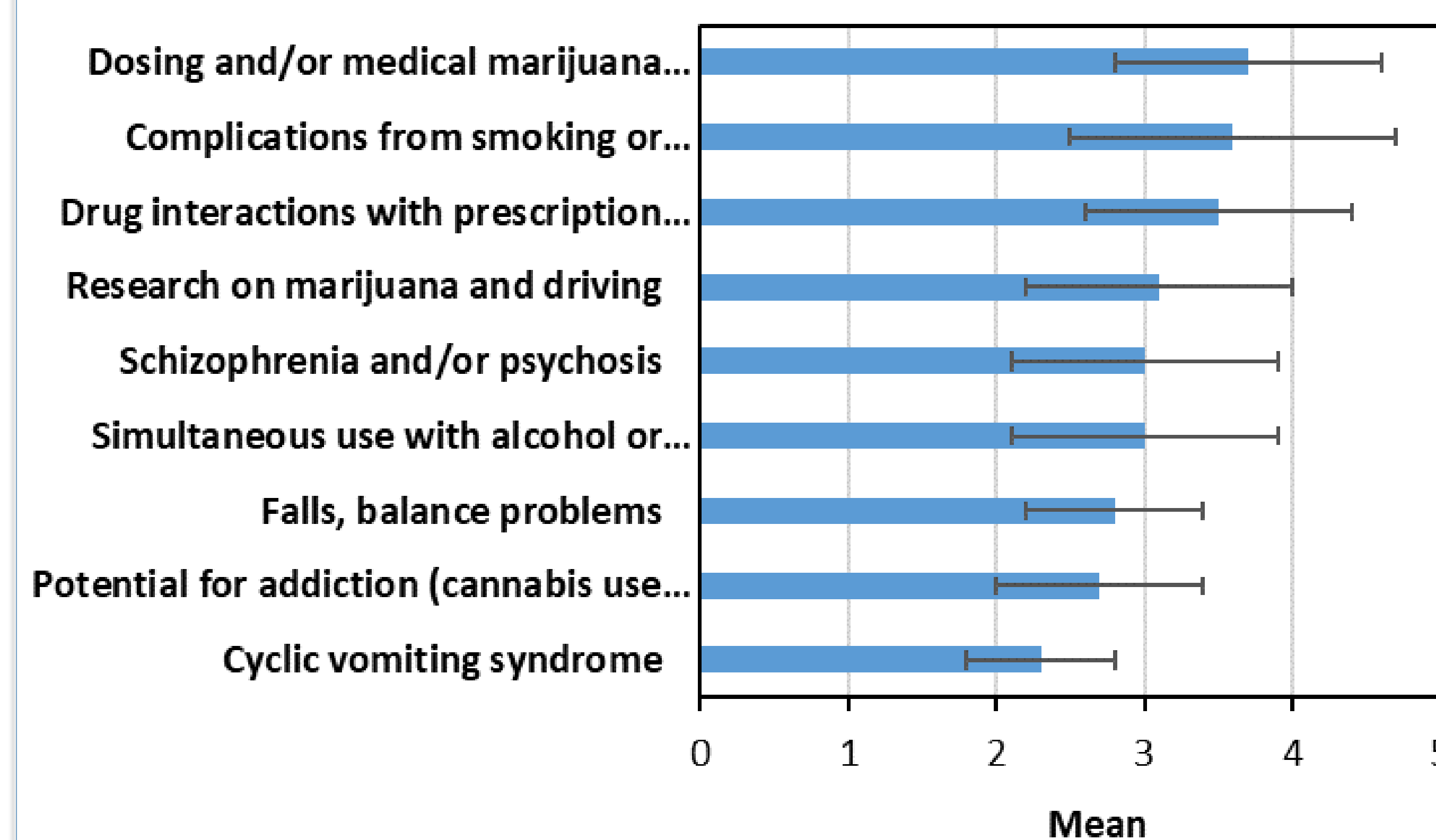


Figure 2: Safety issues

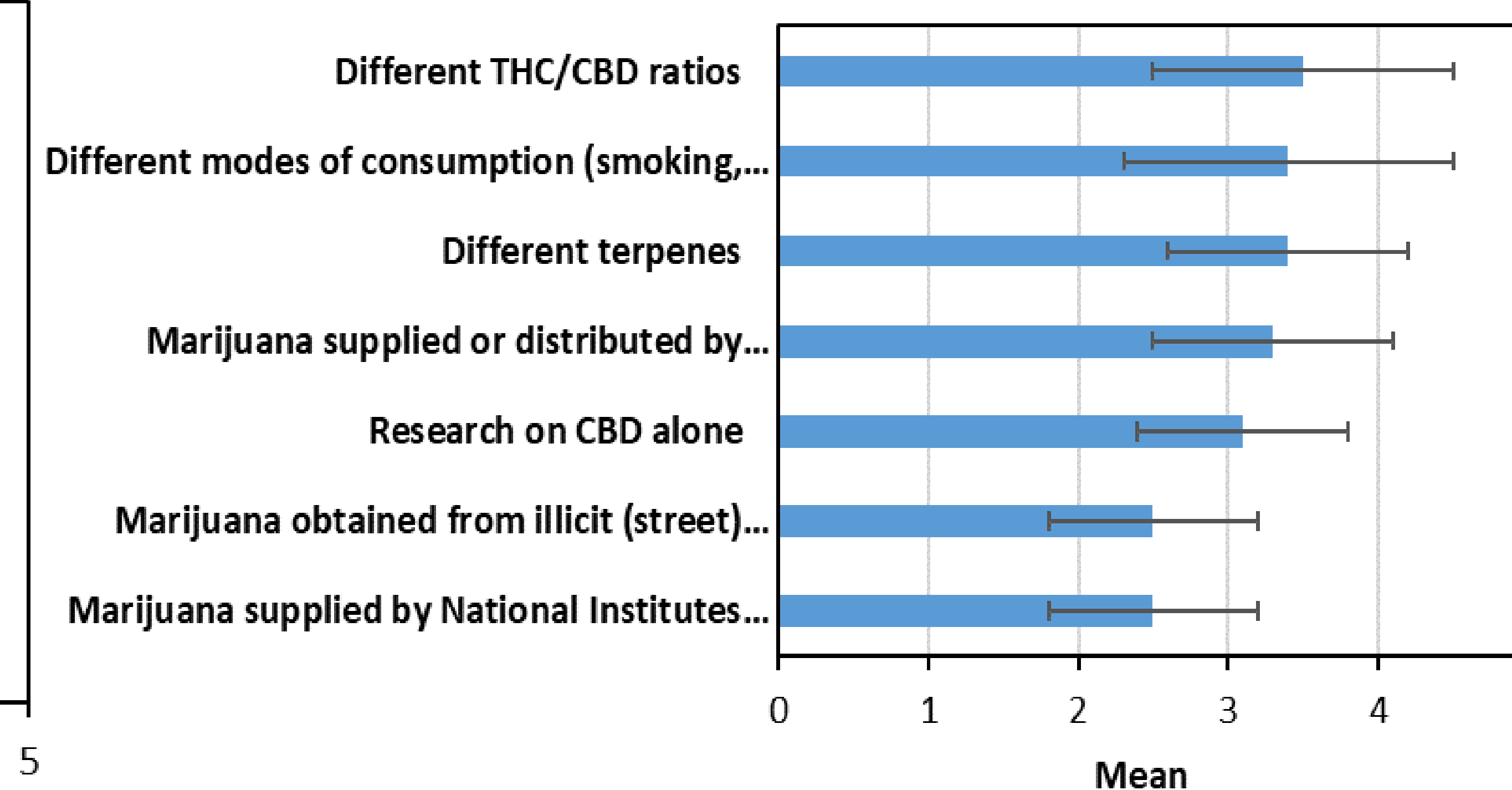


Figure 3: Marijuana types