

Hype or Hemp?

What's Going on in the USA with Medical Marijuana?

Medical Marijuana research is on the rise. Today, I was approached by a multi-level marketing company that sells Hemp Oil legally through their network nationwide. I had to dig a little deeper. [Marijuana is illegal in all but nine states, can they mail it?](#) And, since I'm a retired [Postal Clerk, I had to investigate](#).

It turns out that there is a lot going on in this industry. It's kind of behind the scenes. Marijuana and the generational discord on "Getting High" still control the public's perception of marijuana use, medically or otherwise. The knowledge on CBD's is virtually unknown. Digging in, I found some answers that surprised me, the revolutionary insight that has eluded the scientific community for ages.

CBD's: the naturally occurring chemical cannabinoid, mostly used in medical marijuana. (Also present, CBN's, THC's, CBG's, 113 cannabinoids in all)

THC's: the hallucinogenic cannabinoid component of cannabis.

THCA's: a crystalline formed cannabinoid, (99.9% pure THC) when marijuana is processed using CO2. It results in THC in crystal form. If ingested it is inactive, (the A in the name) but put into a vaporizer it becomes the most potent THC on the market. [Currently selling in California for \\$256 a gram](#). (August 2018)

CBD is only one of many cannabinoids in Hemp and Marijuana. In case you didn't know there is a difference in the plants, hemp is a cousin to marijuana. They're both of the same family. Hemp being *Cannabis indica*, grown because it is lower in THC, and used for cloth, paper, rope and other materials that were especially popular in the 1700 and 1800's. Grind the seeds of the female Hemp plant, and use the oils for cooking or as a suspension oil, and sold over the counter. Marijuana, *Cannabis Sativa*, has the higher THC content, and the female plants produced the better CBD's in this strain. The investigative pursuit of the functional effects of CBD's waylaid now for years because of the 1960's - 1970's. These were years of widespread adverse use in the public's eye. These years

surrounded the Vietnam war and the counter culture of “Hippies” or “Flower Power Children.” Illegal use stopped much of the structured medical breakthroughs that would have opened the public’s eyes to a different outcome sooner. The research did begin again with science from our neighbors to the north.

I started my company searches with Canada. Canada has legal medical marijuana use nationwide. This year, ([Voted and approved on June 7, 2018](#)) they will be legalized recreationally. Aphria, Inc. Aurora Cannabis, [Canopy Growth](#), Abattis Bioceuticals, and Radiant Technologies are company stocks traded in Canada. Canopy Growth entered the USA in May 2018 and is now sold on NYSE: CGC. [Abattis Bioceuticals](#) (OTC: ATTBF) and Aurora Cannabis are combining developing technologies. Abattis has developed a new way to extract the CBD oils with a 99% recovery rate. That is big news in the industry. I wouldn’t be surprised if they enter the NYSE soon. The method used for that high level of extraction is not known publicly.

Until now, the average extraction was one of two ways. CO2 is considered the better of the two. Grinding of the plant stems and seeds and adding ethanol, then vaporizing the chemical, is the other. In many other countries, bleach is used, rendering the CBD’s lethal. Much controversy surrounds even the use of ethanol, and the ingestion of it in the final medical product. The potency and recovery rates were about 80% with the ethanol. Each company has posted potency rates between 15.9% lowest, and 22.77% highest, for the medical CBD’s. Legally, the over the counter, mail order THC’s can’t have higher than 0.3% potency. If the extraction rate is brought to the 99% as stated, it’ll mean fewer oil fillers and condensed oils of very high quality and potency available for medical use. The over-the-counter oils will still hold at only 0.3% potency.

Colorado has the longest running legal market in the US. Edibles and beverage companies are jumping on the bandwagon. Colorado has now approved cannabinoid-infused beers. (No THC, but CBD) This fast-paced growth data ballooned when Canopy Growth sold a 39% equity stake to Constellation Brands, maker of Corona Beer.

One item to note for reference, and it is VERY important for job applicants or those that are randomly drug tested...

Although over-the-counter CBD oils and infused beers, etc., have only a 0.3% THC level, THC is stored in your fat cells and may take up to 180 days to dissolve and run through your body. Those that have used an oil or beer with CBD's infused into them, will show up positive for the THC drug in their blood, urine, mouth swabs, and hair samples. This is something to take under advisement if your state is not using recreational marijuana products, or if you have a Federal position and it isn't allowed nationwide like it is in Canada. Don't risk your job.

I am going to purchase the [Canopy Growth \(NYSE: CGC\)](#) and look into the [Abattis Bioceuticals](#) when they join the US markets. Aurora Cannabis will also be on my radar. I think the medical technologies and uses will expand in the future. Marijuana uses and many medicinal properties used in ancient cultures, will become the norm. I believe after the negative drug use connotations move over, it will find its way into many homes for treating a large variety of medical issues.

To date, CGC closed at \$48.95 per share. I purchased 10 shares at \$30 a share in June 2018. It has been as high as \$54.

CGC	Buy / Sell	48.95	3.21	7.02%	\$32.10	10	\$30.00	\$182.55	59.47%	\$489.50
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I have made a 60% increase in my purchase of 10 shares at close of business on 10/3/18.

I hope the information on CBD's and on my stock pick of Canopy Growth has encouraged and educated you toward your decision to purchase stocks in the medicinal and recreational use of CBD's and Marijuana products for the states that have made it legal for recreational use. Enjoy responsibly. Law enforcement in that area will be another interesting situation to review at a future time.

For now, I bid you farewell and ask for you to be safe,

Cynthia Saarie
Staff Stock Researcher