



# REVIEW OF CANNABIDIOL (CBD) USAGE IN DOGS & CATS

Prepared by Anna Dengate  
BVSc FANZCVS

## Dose & adverse effects

- 2 – 2.5mg/kg BID
- Adverse effects include sedation / ataxia, dry mouth, lower blood pressure, blood shot eyes, sound sensitivity.
- no cumulative adverse effects documented with long term use.
- Avoid formulations containing THC, and ensure the manufacturer provides evidence of concentration and analysis.
- Use lower doses in patients with hepatic dysfunction.
- May result in mild increases in ALT and ALP (high doses)

## Indications in dogs

- Reduced pain and increased activity levels in dogs with Osteoarthritis (strong evidence)
- Reduced frequency and severity of seizures (moderate evidence, >50% reduction in seizure activity)
- Reduced aggressive behavior (presumptive reduction in anxiety) (moderate evidence)
- Pruritis in atopic dermatitis (soft evidence)

## Indications in cats

- Osteoarthritis (anecdotal)
- Gingivostomatitis (anecdotal)
- Lower urinary tract disease (anecdotal)

## Indications in humans, yet to be investigated in companion animals:

- Nausea
- Cancer treatment
- Appetite stimulation
- Multiple sclerosis
- Inflammatory bowel disease
- Numerous inflammatory diseases, including asthma

## References

Plumbs Veterinary drug handbook  
Animal health research reviews 23:1, 2022-09-15  
JFMS 2020  
AJVR 2021  
Animals (Basel) 2021 Mar; 11(3): 892