# Article information:

Physicians-in-training are not prepared to prescribe medical marijuana - PMC
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5648595/>

# Article summary:

1. A national survey found that the majority of medical school curriculum deans (66.7%) reported that their graduates were not prepared to prescribe medical marijuana, and 25% reported that their graduates were not prepared to answer questions about it.

2. The vast majority of residents and fellows (89.5%) felt not at all prepared to prescribe medical marijuana, while 35.3% felt not at all prepared to answer questions, and 84.9% reported receiving no education in medical school or residency on medical marijuana.

3. Only 9% of medical school curriculums document content on medical marijuana in the Association of American Medical Colleges Curriculum Inventory database, highlighting a mismatch between state-level legalization and physician training.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "Physicians-in-training are not prepared to prescribe medical marijuana" highlights the lack of preparation of physicians-in-training to prescribe medical marijuana despite its legalization in more than half of U.S. states. The study conducted a national survey of U.S. medical school curriculum deans, residents and fellows at Washington University in St. Louis, and a query of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Curriculum Inventory database for keywords associated with medical marijuana.

The article presents a clear and concise overview of the study's findings, which indicate that the majority of deans (66.7%) reported that their graduates were not at all prepared to prescribe medical marijuana, while 25% reported that their graduates were not at all prepared to answer questions about medical marijuana. Similarly, the vast majority of residents and fellows (89.5%) felt not at all prepared to prescribe medical marijuana, while 35.3% felt not at all prepared to answer questions, and 84.9% reported receiving no education in medical school or residency on medical marijuana.

However, the article does have some potential biases and limitations that need consideration. Firstly, the sample size for both surveys was relatively small, with only 101 curriculum deans responding to the survey and 258 out of 1176 residents and fellows completing the online survey. This could limit the generalizability of the findings.

Secondly, there is no discussion on how respondents were selected or recruited for participation in either survey or how response rates were calculated. This lack of information makes it difficult to assess whether there was any selection bias or non-response bias present in either survey.

Thirdly, there is no mention of any potential conflicts of interest among authors or funding sources for this study. This lack of transparency raises questions about whether there may be any undisclosed biases or motivations behind this research.

Fourthly, while the article notes that federal law prohibits physicians from prescribing marijuana because it is classified as a Schedule 1 substance by the U.S Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), it does not explore why this classification exists or what implications it has for physicians who may want to prescribe medical marijuana.

Finally, while the article highlights a fundamental mismatch between state-level legalization of medical marijuana and physician training's lack of preparation to prescribe it, it does not explore potential solutions or recommendations for addressing this issue.

In conclusion, while this article provides valuable insights into physicians-in-training's lack of preparation to prescribe medical marijuana despite its legalization in many states, its potential biases and limitations need consideration when interpreting its findings. Further research is needed to explore potential solutions for addressing this issue and ensure that physicians are adequately trained to provide safe and effective care for patients using medical marijuana as part of their treatment plan.

# Topics for further research:

* Why is marijuana classified as a Schedule 1 substance by the DEA?
* What are the potential benefits and risks of using medical marijuana as part of a treatment plan?
* How do other countries train their physicians to prescribe medical marijuana?
* What are the legal and ethical considerations for physicians who want to prescribe medical marijuana?
* What are the potential barriers to integrating medical marijuana into mainstream healthcare?
* What are the current trends and future directions for medical marijuana research and policy?

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/1a754766d62ea6002750aea2f4fc5b32>