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Historical Timeline

History of Marijuana as Medicine - 2737 B.C. to 2010

Over 4,700 years of the History of Cannabis (Marijuana) as Medicine (2737 B.C. - 2010) is presented below. Each event is classified as **Pro**, **Neutral**, or **Con** on events for medical marijuana. Neutral items include those events offered as General Reference (*not clearly pro or con*).

2737 B.C. - 1799 1800 - 1934 1935 - 1995 1996 - 2000 2001 - 2010

DATES	EVENTS - 2737 B.C. to 1799	POSITION
2737 BC	"Emperor Shen-Nung in China prescribes cannabis for beri-beri, constipation, 'female weakness,' gout, malaria, rheumatism and absentmindedness." 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
2737 BC	"Actually, the emperor [Emperor Shen-Nung] turns out to be mythological; Shen is a component of Chinese folk religion, creator of agriculture, and one of the gods most widely worshipped in pre-Revolutionary China. The <i>Treatise on Medicine</i> attributed to Shen was compiled by an early Han dynasty writer, whose sources go back only as far as the fourth century B.C." 1970 Eric Goode, PhD ☆☆☆☆☆ <i>The Marijuana Smokers</i> , Page 13.	Con
2000 BC	In Egypt, cannabis is used to treat sore eyes. 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1400 BC	"A thriving Bronze Age drug trade supplied hashish (cannabis) and opium to ancient cultures throughout the eastern Mediterranean as balm for the pain of childbirth and disease, proving a sophisticated knowledge of medicines dating back thousands of years." Aug. 8, 2002 Associated Press ☆☆☆ report of conference on DNA and archaeology in Israel.	Pro
Pre 1000 BC	Cannabis use begins in India to overcome hunger and thirst by the religious mendicants. 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1000 BC	Bhang, a cannabis preparation (a drink, generally mixed with milk) is used as an anesthetic and anti-phlegmatic in India... Cannabis begins to be used in India to treat a wide variety of human maladies. The drug is still highly regarded and used by some medical practitioners in India. 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
500 BC	Gautama Buddha is said to have survived by eating only cannabis seeds. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Pro
200 BC	In ancient Greece, cannabis is used as a remedy for earache, edema, and inflammation. 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
70 BC	Roman Emperor Nero's surgeon, Dioscorides, praises cannabis for making the stoutest cords and for its medicinal properties. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Pro
200 AD	A Chinese physician, Hoa-Tho, prescribes cannabis as an analgesic in surgical procedures. 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1619	America's first marijuana law is enacted at Jamestown Colony, Virginia, "ordering" all farmers to "make tryal of" (grow) Indian hemp seed. More mandatory (must-grow) hemp cultivation laws are enacted in Massachusetts in 1631, in Connecticut in 1632 and in the Chesapeake Colonies into the mid-1700s. Cannabis is used primarily for fibers, and it's medical use is not widely known by the population at large. Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆	Neutral
1621	The medical book <i>The Anatomy of Melancholy</i> by English clergyman Robert Burton claims cannabis is a treatment for depression. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Pro
pre-1700	Cannabis is used in Africa to restore appetite and to relieve pain of hemorrhoids. Its antiseptic uses are also known to certain African tribes. Various other uses, in a number of African countries, include the treatment of tetanus, hydrophobia, delirium tremens, infantile convulsions, neuralgia, cholera, menorrhagia, rheumatism, hay fever, asthma, skin diseases, and protracted labor during childbirth. 1972 National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1763	The <i>'New English Dictionary'</i> says cannabis root applied to skin eases inflammation. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Pro

1799	Napoleon's army returns from Egypt with knowledge (and samples) of cannabis. The scientific members of Napoleon's forces are interested in the drug's pain relieving and sedative effects. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
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DATES	EVENTS - 1800 - 1934	POSITION
1839	William O'Shaughnessy, an Irishman working in the service of the British in India, writes the first modern English medical article on cannabis. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1840	Work of physicians O'Shaughnessy, Aubert-Roche, and Moreau de Tours draw wide attention to cannabis. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1842	O'Shaughnessy reports that tetanus could be arrested and cured when treated with extra large doses of cannabis. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆ Various marijuana and hashish extracts are the first, second or third most prescribed medicines in the United States from 1842 until the 1890s. Nov. 2000 Jack Herer <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆	Pro
1850	US census of 1850 records 8,327 cannabis plantations of over 2,000 acres each. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Neutral
1850	"Medical use of cannabis declines and cannabis begins to lose support of the medical profession as other medications, considered superior to cannabis in their effects and more easily controlled as to dose, come into wide use." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Con
1854	"The US Dispensary of 1854 lists cannabis compounds as suggested remedies for a multitude of medical problems, including neuralgia, depression, hemorrhage, pain relief and muscle spasm." 1999 Saul Rubin <i>Offbeat Marijuana</i> ☆	Pro
1856-1937	"Cannabis loses its image as a medicine and is left with a disreputable image as an intoxicant." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Con
1857	John Bell, MD, Boston, reports that the effects of cannabis in control of mental and emotional disorders is superior to the use of "moral discipline" to restrain the mentally ill. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆ Smith Brothers of Edinburgh market cannabis indica extracts. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Pro
1858	"Moreau de Tours reports several case histories of manic and depressive disorders treated with hashish [cannabis]." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1860	The <i>Committee on Cannabis Indica</i> of the Ohio State Medical Society is convened. The Committee reports that their respondents claimed cannabis successfully treated neuralgic pain, dysmenorrhea, uterine hemorrhage, hysteria, delirium tremens, mania, palsy, whooping cough, infantile convulsions, asthma, gonorrhoea, nervous rheumatism, chronic bronchitis, muscular spasms, tetanus, epilepsy and appetite stimulation. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1870	US Pharmacopoeia lists cannabis as a medicine. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Pro
1893-94	India establishes the India Hemp Commission to examine the question of cannabis use in India. The Commission reports the use of cannabis as an analgesic, a restorer of energy, a hemostat, an ebolic, and an anti-diarrhetic. Cannabis is also mentioned in the report as an aid in treating hay fever, cholera, dysentery, gonorrhoea, diabetes, impotence, urinary incontinence, testicular swelling, granulation of open sores, and chronic ulcers. Other beneficial effects attributed to cannabis are prevention of insomnia, relief of anxiety, protection against cholera, alleviation of hunger and as an aid to concentration of attention. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse - Appendix, Chapter One, Part I ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1895	First known use of the name "marijuana" for cannabis, by Pancho Villa's supporters in Sonora, Mexico. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Neutral
1898	Sir William Osler, professor of medicine at the Johns Hopkins and later Regius Professor of Medicine at the University of Oxford, stated in his 1898 discussion of migraine headaches that marijuana "is probably the most satisfactory remedy" for that condition. 2002 The Schaffer Online Library of Drug Policy ☆	Pro
1906	The <i>Pure Food and Drug Act</i> is passed, forming the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and giving it the power to regulate foods and drugs, and requiring labeling of contents on foods and drugs. The patent medicine industry was demised by this act. 2003 The Schaffer Online Library of Drug Policy ☆	Neutral

1915	<p>Utah passes the first US state anti-marijuana law. Mormons who had gone to Mexico in 1910 returned smoking marijuana. The Utah legislature enacted laws outlawing all Mormon religion prohibitions as criminal laws. 2002 The Schaffer Online Library of Drug Policy; Drug Law Timeline ☆</p> <p>The States of Utah, California and Texas outlaw cannabis. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆</p>	Con
1922	<p><i>The Narcotic Drug Import and Export Act</i> is passed by US Congress. It is intended to eliminate use of narcotics except for legitimate medical use. 2002 The Schaffer Online Library of Drug Policy; Drug Law Timeline ☆</p>	Neutral
1923	<p>Canada adds Cannabis to the Schedule of prohibited drugs of the Opium and Narcotic Drug Act. 8/4/03 Drug Sense/MAPP ☆</p> <p>The States of Louisiana, Nevada, Oregon and Washington outlaw cannabis. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆</p>	Con
1924	<p>At the Second International Opiates conference, "cannabis is declared a narcotic." 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆</p>	Con
1927	<p>The Bureau of Chemistry is reorganized into two separate entities. Regulatory functions are located in the Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration, and nonregulatory research is located in the Bureau of Chemistry and soils. May 3. 1999 US Food and Drug Administration, <i>FDA Backgrounder</i> ☆</p>	Neutral
1927	<p>The State of New York outlaws cannabis. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆</p>	Con
1928	<p>The UK's <i>Dangerous Drugs Act</i> become law, making cannabis illegal in the United Kingdom. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆</p>	Con
1929	<p>Southwest states in the US make cannabis illegal "as part of a move to oust Mexican immigrants." 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆</p>	Con
1930	<p>The US government sponsors the Siler Commission to study the effects of off-duty smoking of marijuana by American servicemen in Panama. The report concludes that marijuana is not a problem and recommends that no criminal penalties apply to its use. Nov. 2000 Jack Herer <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆</p>	Neutral
1930	<p>The Food, Drug, and Insecticide Administration is shortened to the Food and Drug Administration. May 3. 1999 US Food and Drug Administration, <i>FDA Backgrounder</i>, ☆</p>	Neutral
1931	<p>Mellon, in his role as President Hoover's Secretary of the Treasury, appoints his future nephew-in-law, Harry J. Anslinger, to be head of the newly reorganized Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (FBND). Nov. 2000 Jack Herer <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆</p>	Neutral
1933	<p><i>The Military Surgeon</i> writes: "Practically all the seed for the present day American hemp culture is grown in the Kentucky River valley. Hemp is found growing wild in the 'slough' district of the Illinois River valley, especially in Tazewell County, where the gathering of the flowering tops is a local industry. The harvest is sold to the pharmaceutical trade. There is no evidence that the smoking of hemp or other abuse respecting this plant is practiced or known to those engaged in this occupation." July-Dec. 1933 <i>The Military Surgeon</i> Volume 73 ☆</p>	Pro
1933	<p>The FDA recommends a complete revision of the obsolete 1906 <i>Food and Drugs Act</i>. A five-year legal battle is launched in the US Senate. May 3. 1999 US Food and Drug Administration, <i>FDA Backgrounder</i>, ☆</p>	Neutral
1933	<p>Marijuana (<i>Cannabis indica</i> or <i>C. sativa</i>) is described in the <i>Epitome of U. S. Pharmacopoeia</i>, and <i>National Formulary</i> as a "narcotic poison, producing a mild delirium. Used in sedative mixtures, but of doubtful value. Also employed to color corn remedies." Cannabis is used in medicine to relieve pain, to encourage sleep, and to soothe restlessness. The drug is used very little in the practice of medicine. It is considered unstable and unreliable and as there are other drugs which can be used to relieve pain and produce sleep the prescribing of this drug for these purposes is falling into disuse. July-Dec. 1933 <i>The Military Surgeon</i> Volume 73 ☆</p>	Con
mid-1930's	<p>"The abolition of slavery following the Civil War put hemp at a competitive disadvantage because its harvest and processing required intensive labor. The industry slowly declined to the brink of extinction as cotton captured the fiber market, but by the mid-1930s new machinery could efficiently extract hemp's fibers from its stalk, and the plant was poised for economic recovery. The Feb. 1938 issue of <i>Popular Mechanics</i> hailed it as the 'New Billion-Dollar Crop,' while a concurrent issue of <i>Mechanical Engineering</i> deemed hemp 'The Most Profitable and Desirable Crop That Can Be Grown.'" Jan. 18, 2004 <i>Los Angeles Times</i> - "The Demonized Seed" by Lee Green, ☆ ☆</p>	Neutral

DATES	EVENTS - 1935-1995	POSITION
1935-7	<p>"In secret US Treasury Department meetings, prohibitive tax laws are drafted and strategies plotted. Marijuana is not banned outright; the law calls for an occupational excise tax upon dealers, and a transfer tax upon dealings in marijuana." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆</p>	Con
1937	<p>Assistant US Surgeon General Walter Treadway told the <i>Cannabis Advisory Subcommittee</i> of the League of Nations that, "It [cannabis] may be taken for a relatively long time without social or emotional breakdown. Marihuana is habit-forming. . . in the same sense as. . . sugar or coffee." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆</p>	Pro
1937	<p>"The Hearst newspapers had acquired a taste for sensationalistic headlines and lurid stories about Mexicans and 'marijuana-crazed Negroes' assaulting, raping and murdering whites. It was all nonsense, but Anslinger shamelessly parroted these myths and concocted his own in congressional testimony and in speeches and articles, branding marijuana the 'worst evil of all.' In a 1937 magazine piece titled "Marijuana, the Assassin of Youth," he blamed suicides and "degenerate sex attacks" on the drug.</p> <p>'Marijuana is the unknown quantity among narcotics,' he wrote. 'No one knows, when he smokes it, whether he will become a philosopher, a joyous reveler, a mad insensate, or a murderer.' Prior to such calculated misstatements, few Americans had smoked marijuana. Most had never even heard of it." Jan. 18, 2004 Los Angeles Times - "The Demonized Seed" by Lee Green ☆☆</p>	Con
1937 Mar. 29	<p>"After the Supreme Court decision of Mar. 29, 1937, upholding the prohibition of machine guns through taxation, Herman Oliphant made his move. On Apr. 14, 1937 he introduced the bill directly to the House Ways and Means Committee instead of to other appropriate committees such as food and drug, agriculture, textiles, commerce, etc.</p> <p>His reason may have been that "Ways and Means" is the only committee that can send its bills directly to the House floor without being subject to debate by other committees. Ways and Means Chairman Robert L. Doughton, a key DuPont ally, quickly rubber-stamped the secret Treasury bill and sent it sailing through Congress to the President." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆</p>	Con
1937 Spring	<p>"William G. Woodward, MD, who was both a physician and an attorney for the American Medical Association, testified on behalf of the AMA.</p> <p>He said, in effect, the entire fabric of federal testimony was tabloid sensationalism! No real testimony had been heard! This law, passed in ignorance, could possibly deny the world a potential medicine, especially now that the medical world was just beginning to find which ingredients in cannabis were active.</p> <p>Woodward told the committee that the only reason the AMA hadn't come out against the marijuana tax law sooner was that marijuana had been described in the press for 20 years as 'killer weed from Mexico.'</p> <p>The AMA doctors had just realized 'two days before' these spring 1937 hearings, that the plant Congress intended to outlaw was known medically as cannabis, the benign substance used in America with perfect safety in scores of illnesses for over one hundred years.</p> <p>'We cannot understand yet, Mr. Chairman,' Woodward protested, 'why this bill should have been prepared in secret for two years without any intimation, even to the profession, that it was being prepared.' He and the AMA were quickly denounced by Anslinger and the entire congressional committee, and curtly excused." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆</p>	Pro
1937 Spring	<p>"When the Marijuana Tax Act bill came up for oral report, discussion, and vote on the floor of Congress, only one pertinent question was asked from the floor: "Did anyone consult with the AMA and get their opinion?"</p> <p>Representative Vinson, answering for the Ways and Means Committee replied, "Yes, we have. A Dr. Wharton [mistaken pronunciation of Woodward?] and the AMA are in complete agreement!"</p> <p>With this memorable lie, the bill passed, and became law in Dec. 1937." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, ☆ <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i></p>	Con
1937 Aug. 2	<p><i>The Marijuana Tax Act</i> passes and becomes law. Act of Aug. 2, 1937, Public 238, 75th Congress ☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Con
1938	<p>"The <i>Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act</i> is passed. The FDA is given control over drug safety, and the Act establishes a class of drugs available by Prescription." 2003 The Schaffer Online Library of Drug Policy ☆</p>	Neutral
1940	<p>Dr. R.N. Chopra reports that, in India, "hemp drugs are popularly used as household remedies in the amelioration of many minor ailments." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse ☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1941	<p>"Marijuana is officially removed from the US Pharmacopoeia." 1997 American Medical Association, Report 10 of the Council of Scientific Affairs ☆</p>	Con
1942	<p>Drs. Allentuck and Bowman, in a study of the use of marihuana in the morphine abstinence syndrome, state "The results in general, although still inconclusive, suggest that the marijuana substitution method ameliorated or eliminated (the symptoms) sooner, the patient was in a better</p>	Pro

	<p>frame of mind, his spirits elevated, his physical condition was more rapidly rehabilitated, and he expressed a wish to resume his occupation sooner." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	
1943	<p>US Military Surgeon magazine declares that "smoking cannabis is no more harmful than smoking tobacco." 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide☆</p>	Pro
1944	<p>New York City Mayor LaGuardia's Committee on Marihuana notes two possible therapeutic applications of marijuana: "The first is the typical euphoria-producing action which might be applicable in the treatment of various types of mental depression; the second is the rather unique property which results in the stimulation of appetite." New York City Mayor LaGuardia's Committee on Marihuana studied 56 morphine and heroin addicts at Riker's Island Penitentiary, N.Y., find-ing "those who received tetrahydrocannabinols had less severe withdrawal symptoms than those who received no treatment or who were treated with Magendie's solution." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1945	<p>Newsweek Magazine reports "over 100,000 Americans use cannabis." 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide☆</p>	Neutral
1945	<p>Harry J. Anslinger, head of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (FBND), "in public tirade after tirade, denounces Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, the New York Academy of Medicine and the doctors who researched the report. Anslinger proclaims that these doctors would never again do marijuana experiments or research without his personal permission, or be sent to jail. He then uses the full power of the United States government illegally to halt virtually all research into marijuana while he blackmails the American Medical Association (AMA) into denouncing the New York Academy of Medicine and its doctors for the research they had done." To refute the LaGuardia report, the AMA, "at Anslinger's personal request, conducts a 1944-45 study, which reports; 'of the experimental group 34 were negroes and one was white' (for statistical control) who smoked marijuana, became disrespectful of white soldiers and officers in the segregated military." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i>☆</p>	Con
1947	<p>Dr. Douthwaite reports using cannabis hashish "for reducing of anxiety and tension in patients with duodenal ulcer." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1948	<p>"Testifying before a strongly anti-Communist Congress in 1948 - and thereafter continually to the press - Anslinger proclaims that marijuana renders its users not violent at all, but so peaceful - and pacifistic - that the Communists 'could and would use marijuana to weaken our American fighting men's will to fight." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer, <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i>☆</p>	Con
1949	<p>Researchers JP Davis and HH Ramsey report (Fed. Proc. Am. Soc. Exp. Biol. 8: 284) that a clinical trial of five institutionalized epileptic children found that: "Three children - responded at least as well as to previous therapy. Fourth child - almost completely seizure free. Fifth child - entirely seizure free." Their conclusion was that "the cannabinols herein reported deserve further trial in non-institutionalized epileptics." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1952	<p>Dr. J. Kapelikovi, in his report "Antibacterial Action of Cannabis Indica," concludes that "alcohol extract of cannabis is bacterially effective against many gram-positive and one gram-negative micro-organisms." He also found a paste form of external application successful. According to the report; "from a study of 2,000 herbs by Czechoslovakian scientists it was found that cannabis indica was the most promising in the realm of antibiotics." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1953	<p>Drs. Thompson and Proctor report; "Pyrahexyl (a synthetic cannabis-like drug) and related compounds are beneficial in the treatment of withdrawal symptoms from the use of alcohol to a marked degree, and in the treatment of withdrawal symptoms from the use of opiates to a less marked, but still significant degree." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1954	<p>Pharmacopoeias of India contains descriptions of liquid cannabis extract and tincture, and describes how it is made. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro
1957	<p>"In 1957, a Wisconsin farmer harvested the last legal commercial hemp crop in America." Jan. 18, 2004 Los Angeles Times - "The Demonized Seed" by Lee Green ☆☆</p>	Neutral
1957	<p>Drs. Chopra and Chopra, in their article "<i>The Use of the Cannabis Drugs in India</i>", state; "with regard to the use of cannabis in Indian indigenous medicine at the present time, it may be said that it was and still is fairly extensively used in both the Ayurvedle (Hindu) and Tibbi (Mohammedan) systems of medicine as an anodyne, hypnotic, analgesic and antispasmodic, and as a remedy for external application to piles. It is also used in the treatment of dysmenorrhoea, rheumatism, chronic diarrhea of the sprue type, gonorrhoea, malaria and mental diseases on the advice of itinerant practitioners of indigenous medicine as well as quacks who roam about the country. For medicinal purposes the drug is administered by mouth and hardly ever by smoking." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆</p>	Pro

1959	In the Czech publication of <i>Pharmacie</i> , Dr. Krejci reports that he extracted a chemical from the cannabis plant that had "antibiotic properties." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1960	Krejci, Kabelik and Santavy include in " <i>Cannabis as a Medicant</i> " the various microorganisms against which cannabis is effective; "Proof could be furnished that the cannabis extracts produce a very satisfactory antibacterial effect upon the following microbes: staphylococcus pyogenes aureus, streptococcus alpha haemolyticus, streptococcus beta haemolyticus, enterococcus, diplococcus pneumonia, B. antracis, and corynebacterium diphtheriae i.e., all of them gram-positive microorganisms. Noteworthy is the effect upon staphylococcus aureaus strains, which are resistant to penicillin and to other antibiotics." Kabelik reports that in Argentina "cannabis is considered a real panacea for tetanus, colic, gastralgia, swelling of the liver, gonorrhoea, sterility, impotency, abortion, tuberculosis of the lungs and asthma... even the root-bark has been collected in spring, and employed as a fibrifuge, tonic, for treatment of dysentery and gastralgia, either pulverized or in form of decoctions. The root when ground and applied to burns is said to relieve pain. Oil from seeds has been frequently used even in treatment of cancer." Kabelik also notes; "In human therapy the best results have been obtained with the following medicaments combined with substances derived from cannabis: dusting powder together with boric acid, ointment, ear drops, alcohol solutions with glycerine, aqueous emulsions, dentin powder. The preparations mentioned above have been already tested clinically, and will eventually be made available for production." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1961	Dr. Krejci reports in another Czech publication that he had obtained "two additional samples [from cannabis] with antibiotic activity." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1961	The U.N. Treaty 406 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs is signed, which seeks to outlaw cannabis use and cannabis cultivation worldwide, and "eradicate cannabis smoking within 30 years." The US representative is Anslinger. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide☆	Con
1962	President John F. Kennedy, who uses cannabis as a pain relief, fires Anslinger. 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide☆	Pro
1963	H.B.M Murphy, MD PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University, Montreal, reports on cannabis investigations in Eastern Europe, stating "it is alleged to be active against gram positive organisms at 1/100,000 dilution, but to be largely inactivated by plasma, so that prospects for its use appear to be confined to E.N.T. (ear, nose and throat) and skin infections." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1964	Dr. Raphael Mechoulam, Lionel Jacobson Professor of Medicinal Chemistry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, is the first to identify delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) as the most active compound in cannabis. Feb. 11, 2002 US Hempfood Association☆	Neutral
1965	An article of <i>Medical News</i> , "Cardiac Glycocides" suggests cannabis as treatment for a specific form of malignancy. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1966	Pharmacopoeias of India contain descriptions of liquid cannabis extract and tincture, and describes how it is made. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1968	The UK's <i>Wooton Report</i> states "Having reviewed all the material available to us we find ourselves in agreement with the conclusion reached by the Indian Hemp Drugs Commission and the New York Mayor's Committee that the long-term consumption of cannabis in moderate doses has no harmful effects." 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide☆	Pro
1968	A report by a London Advisory Committee suggests that "cannabis treats the symptoms and not the cause by focusing the user's attention on his anxieties and pains without helping to resolve them." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Con
1969	Dr. Vansim of Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland Headquarters of the US Army Chemical Corps, writes in a 1969 book <i>Psychotomimetic Drugs</i> that "the synthetic preparations of cannabis are of interest. There are three areas where they may be of definite use in medicine. One concerns the use of a cannabis analogue which Dr. Walter S. Loewe reported [1937-1942] very effective in preventing grand mal seizures if given in small doses." 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆ Lester Grinspoon, MD, Harvard, suggests that cannabis might be useful in the treatment of pathological loss of appetite known as anorexia nervosa. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1970	Veliky and Genest in "Suspension Culture of Cannabis Sativa" report that "the ethanol extract of cultured cells exhibited antibiotic activity against Bacillus megatherium, staphylococcus aureaus and escherichia coli..." Tod Mikuriya, MD, notes that the substitution of smoked cannabis for alcohol may have rehabilitative value for certain alcoholics. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse☆☆☆☆☆	Pro

1970	The <i>Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act (US Controlled Substances Act)</i> is passed by Congress, which deletes the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937, and places Marijuana (and all parts thereof) into Schedule I, meaning it has no medical value and has the highest potential for abuse. 1997 American Medical Association, Report 10 of the Council on Scientific Affairs ☆	Con
1970 Oct.	A NIMH granted research study by Leo E. Hollister, MD, reports in the <i>Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics</i> that "Two separate experiments indicated that in most subjects, after oral administration of marihuana, total food intake, as well as reports of hunger and appetite, are increased. Stimulation of appetite by marihuana is by no means invariable, occurring in only slightly more than half the subjects." Journal of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics Vol 12, No. 1 ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1971	Drs. Hepler and Frank report that cannabis reduces intraocular pressure by up to 30%, thus helping glaucoma patients. 1972 National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1971	The British <i>Misuse of Drugs Act</i> classifies cannabis as a Class B drug. "This bans the medical use of cannabis, ignoring the <i>Wooton Report</i> ." 2002 UK Cannabis Campaigners' Guide ☆	Con
1972	The Consumers' Union, the parent company of <i>Consumer Reports</i> magazine, published a book titled <i>Licit & Illicit Drugs</i> that recommended, among other things, "...the immediate repeal of all federal laws governing the growing, processing, transportation, sale, possession, and use of marijuana... Consumers' Union recommends that each of the fifty states similarly repeal its existing marijuana laws and pass new laws legalizing the cultivation, processing, and orderly marketing of marijuana -- subject to appropriate regulations." 1972 Consumers' Union ☆	Pro
1972 Dec	Drs. Hepler, Frank and Ungerleider publishes a study in the American Journal of Ophthalmology which finds that the use of marijuana is associated with a decrease in intraocular pressure. Dec. 1972 American Journal of Ophthalmology, Pages 1185-1190. ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1973	The Final Report of Canada's Commission of Inquiry into the Non-Medical Use of Drugs (the Le Dain Commission) is released, which recommends decriminalization of the personal use of marijuana.. Aug. 4, 2003 Drug Sense/MAP ☆	Pro
1973	The Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration (ADAMHA) consolidates NIMH, NIDA, and NIAAA under one organization. The Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs is reorganized into the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). 2003 The Schaffer Online Library of Drug Policy; Drug Law Timeline ☆ The US Supreme Court upholds the 1962 drug effectiveness law and endorses FSA action to control entire classes of products by regulations rather than to rely only on litigation. May 3, 1999 US Food and Drug Administration, <i>FDA Backgrounders</i> ☆	Neutral
1975	In an article in the <i>Journal of the National Cancer Institute</i> ; "Antineoplastic Activity of Cannabinoids" a Medical College of Virginia team notes: "The active chemical agent in marijuana curbs the growth of three kinds of cancer in mice and may also suppress the immunity reaction that causes the rejection of organ transplants." The researchers find that "THC slowed the growth of lung cancers, breast cancers, and a virus-induced leukemia in laboratory mice, and prolonged their lives by as much as 36 percent." 1975 Journal of the National Cancer Institute ☆☆☆☆☆ Dr. Stephen Sallan of the Sidney Farber Cancer Center publishes a study which finds that THC has antiemetic properties and that it is better in preventing vomiting than in treating existing vomiting. Mar. 18, 1982 Michigan Cancer Foundation ☆ Dr. Donald Tashkin et al publishes an article in <i>American Review of Respiratory Disease</i> (Volume 112, 1975) which, Dr. Tashkin says "appear to support the benefit ascribed to the use of cannabis in the last century for the treatment of bronchial asthma." The report noted; "After methacholine induced bronchospasm, placebo marijuana and saline inhalation produced minimal changes in specific airway conductance and thoracic gas volume, whereas 2.0 per cent marijuana and isoproterenol each caused a prompt correction of bronchospasm and associated hyperinflation." 2004 National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML) ☆	Pro
1975 Oct. 20	Paul Consroe, PhD, publishes a study in the <i>Journal of the American Medical Association</i> that finds "Marijuana smoking, in conjunction with therapeutic doses of Phenobarbital and diphenylhydantoin, was apparently necessary for controlling seizures in one 24-year-old epileptic patient." Oct. 20, 1975 Journal of the American Medical Association, Vol. 234, No. 3. ☆☆☆☆☆	Pro
1975 Nov.	Virtually all of America's leading researchers on marijuana meet at Asilomar Conference Center, Pacific Grove, California. Seminars sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) address a compendium of studies from their earliest to most recent findings. When the seminars are over, "practically all the scientists conclude that the federal government, with the hard evidence collected so far on the therapeutic potential of marijuana, should be rushing to invest tax money into more research." Nov. 2000 Jack Herer <i>The Emperor Wears No Clothes</i> ☆	Pro