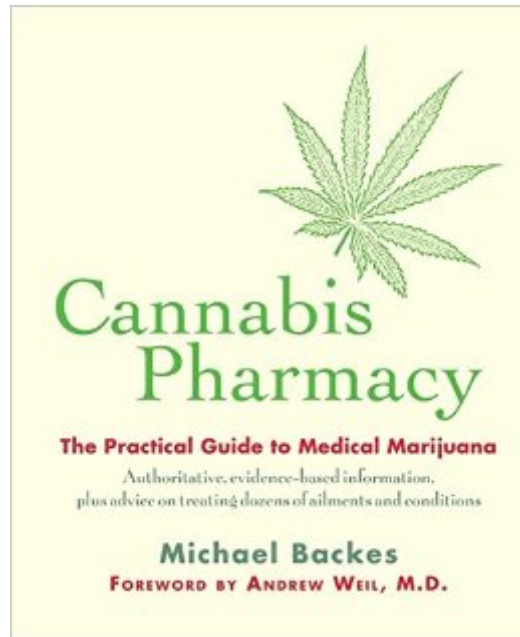


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# Cannabis Pharmacy: The Practical Guide To Medical Marijuana



## Synopsis

The most comprehensive, easy-to-use book available on understanding and using medical marijuana. Revised and updated with the latest information on varieties, delivery and dosing, and treatable conditions. There are currently 4.2 million medical cannabis patients in the United States, and there are 20 states plus the District of Columbia where medical cannabis is legal. As medical cannabis becomes an accepted herbal medicine, there is a demand for clear, easy-to-follow information for the layperson based on the latest sound medical and evidence-based research. Written by Michael Backes, a respected expert in the field, Cannabis Pharmacy begins with the history of medical marijuana and an explanation of how cannabis works with the body's own endocannabinoid system. Backes goes on to explore in detail 27 of the most popular cannabis varieties, how to identify them, the differences between them, and the medical conditions for which patients have reported effectiveness. Additional chapters describe how to prepare and store cannabis, how best to administer those preparations, and how to modify and control dosage. Also included is a guide to 29 ailments and illnesses for which doctors commonly recommend medical marijuana, including chronic pain, chemotherapy-induced nausea, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, fibromyalgia, and Parkinson's disease. Meticulously researched and written in an easy and accessible style, Cannabis Pharmacy provides the clearest, most complete, and most practical information available on the use and benefits of medical marijuana.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As one of fewer than 50 physicians in the US certified in cannabinoid medicine by the Amer Assoc

of Cannabinoid Medicine, I recommend this book to physicians, other health care professionals, policy makers, and patients. This book summarizes and communicates the state of the art of cannabis medicine as of roughly early 2013. It is much easier to read and in many ways more practical than such academic books as "Marijuana and Cannabinoid Research: Methods and Protocols" edited by Prof. Emmanuel Onaivi (whose work is advancing knowledge of the CB2 receptor in the CNS) or "Cannabinoids in Nature and Medicine" edited by Didier Lambert. Backes' book bridges and updates the clinical knowledge in the aforementioned books as well as less academic and non-academic books including multiple chapter authors in "The Pot Book" by Julia Holland or Martin Lee's *Smoke Signals*, and Irv Rosenfeld's classic, "My Medicine," respectively. The use of Medical cannabis in the USA goes back to the pre-Civil War era, as reprinted in the late Dr Todd Mikuriya's "Medical Marijuana Papers", pre-WW1 medical and pharmacy textbooks, and summarized by Dr David Bearman in "Demons, Discrimination, and Dollars" (and expanded upon his soon to be published illustrated .much expanded version.

Being a 2014 release, this has some of the most up-to-date information about the medicinal applications of cannabis, in spite of the fact that even more information has been released since the final edit of this book. The book is not cut up into a bunch of chapters, but four loosely defined "Parts". In Part 1, you get a conglomeration of cannabis history and biology, but quickly switches up into how cannabinoids work in the body and how they even interact with some prescribed and over-the-counter medications. A good explanation of terpenes and how they augment the effects of the cannabis in the body is here too. Possibly the best book dealing with the "adverse effects" of short-term and long-term use, along with a good few paragraphs about "over-medication" or that bad trip. Part 2 is interesting in its own right. It is titled, "Using Medical Cannabis", and goes through all the basics that a newbie would have to figure out on their own. Short of having an experienced user to guide you, this is practically the next best thing. Good few pages on contaminants, pesticides, and other adulterants, particularly useful for underground users depending on an unregulated black market for their medicine. "Varieties of Medical Cannabis", Part 3 is a complete section on common strains and what they are used for. If I have a complaint, it is with this section. Many of the strains mentioned are all old standbys. With all the creative crosses and private grows, you find many non-name and designer strains being used in the medical cannabis community. More information about that, crossed with the terpene section, would have been best to allow a nuanced understanding of how that is linked. You are left to extrapolate everything on your own.

Mike Backes is a gifted communicator of science and this is a landmark book that will help a lot of people. Just look at his background for starters -- he's not your average pot fan. He worked with one of the greatest science fiction writers of all time, Michael Crichton. He co-wrote the screenplay for the movie adaptation of his book, "Rising Sun" and was part of the graphics design team on the movie, "Jurassic Park." Now he brings those communication talents to this important issue of medical marijuana, and he does so in a friendly, practical way, delivering large amounts of information to people who need it. His timing with this book couldn't be better as 2014 seems to be the year where medical marijuana has emerged from the shadows into mainstream culture. For me personally, my entire perspective has changed over the past year. I have a friend who at age 50 last year was diagnosed with colon cancer. She's a fairly conservative person who had never smoked more than a novelty amount of marijuana in her life. She endured her entire six months of chemotherapy and radiation treatment without losing any weight or showing the normal decline seen in cancer patients. She credits it entirely to the role of medical marijuana. She had a friend who stepped in at the start, showed her the value of it, helped her purchase it, then coached her all the way through. Her experience certainly changed my entire opinion of the subject. So this is exactly the book that is now needed, for one big reason which is spelled out on the cover, "Evidence-based information on using cannabis for ailment and conditions." Marijuana has been subjected to a smear campaign for over a half century. It's time for the facts to prevail.

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