The Cannabinoid Use in Progressive Inflammatory brain Disease (CUPID) trial: a randomised double-blind placebo-controlled parallel-group multicentre trial and economic evaluation of cannabinoids to slow progression in multiple sclerosis


Record Status
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Citation

Authors’ conclusions
The CUPID trial failed to demonstrate a significant treatment effect in primary or secondary outcomes. There were no major safety concerns, but unwanted side effects seemed to affect compliance. Participants were more disabled than in previous studies and deteriorated less than expected, possibly reducing our ability to detect treatment effects. RMT analyses supported performance of MS-specific rating scales as measures, enabled group- and individual person-level examination of treatment effects, but did not influence study inferences. The intervention had significant additional costs with no improvement in health outcomes; therefore, it was dominated by usual care and not cost-effective. Future work should focus on determining further factors to predict clinical deterioration, to inform the development of new studies, and modifying treatments in order to minimise side effects and improve study compliance. The absence of disease-modifying treatments in progressive MS warrants further studies of the cannabinoid pathway in potential neuroprotection.

Final publication URL
http://www.journalslibrary.nihr.ac.uk/hta/hta19120/#/abstract

Indexing Status
Subject indexing assigned by CRD

MeSH
Humans; Cannabinoid Receptor Agonists; Disease Progression; Multiple Sclerosis, Chronic Progressive; Treatment Outcome; Cannabinoids; Brain Diseases; Inflammation; Randomized Controlled Trial; Cost-Benefit Analysis

Language Published
English

Country of organisation
England

English summary
An English language summary is available.

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AccessionNumber
32015000309
Date abstract record published
17/03/2015