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FIBROMYALGIA AND CANNABINOIDS: EMERGING ISSUES

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Fibromyalgia is a chronic disorder characterized by widespread and long-lasting pain, tenderness, and fatigue. It is associated with impaired quality of life, and significant social and health burden.

The etiopathogenesis of this condition is presently undefined, but is probably multifactorial. The hypothesis of a clinical endocannabinoid deficiency has been proposed. In fact, recent studies suggest that synthetic cannabinoids might be an effective therapy in patients with fibromyalgia.

Based on the clinical case of a female patient whose cannabis use was related to symptomatic relief of fibromyalgia, the authors review issues concerning the endocannabinoid system, its possible relation to this challenging pain disorder, and therapeutic possibilities with synthetic cannabinoids.