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Should the Feds Join the Trend to Legalize Pot?

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Unfortunately, Mr. Boehner's advocacy is hampered by the conflation of potential medicinal usage and recreational use. There is clear data supporting limited efficacy in a number of medical conditions. Most information regarding expansion of indications is anecdotal. The Medical Society of the State of New York (MSSNY) and the AMA have a longstanding policy recommending rescheduling of marijuana and related substances to Schedule II to allow validation of anecdotal claims. The MSSNY strongly opposes expansion of usage for opiate-use disorder without better data to support efficacy. Promoting usage of marijuana for opiate addiction without data to support it potentially diverts patients from well proven, life-saving, medication-assisted treatment with methadone and buprenorphine, and could potentially increase death from overdosage of street drugs.

There is longstanding data indicating association of marijuana use with psychosis, particularly in patients with pre-existing mental-health conditions.

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