

J. Seltzer

May 11, 1978

Paul Satz, Ph.D.
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Dear Paul,

I have had the time to read your interesting report and do believe it should be published. While I would consider the standard neuropsychological journals, I will suggest that you may want to place it in a journal dedicated to drug problems such as "Contemporary Drug Problems". The audience is the legal profession and those sophisticated drug research specialists who have an interest in behavioral variables. I have published in the journal on a number of occasions and know the editors, who would (I think) be interested in the review. (Laurence London, 24 West Terrace Road, Great Neck, NY 11021).

I found the summaries of the studies well done and the report interesting. If I were to critique the Greek summary (since I know it best), it would be to indicate that we dedicated a lot more effort to the EEG texting and it was this component which complements the other brain tests in other studies. The translation of the EEG data is not too difficult-- we found that the resting EEG records of users and controls were the same; that the effects of cannabis, even in high doses, altered the EEG patterns transiently; that the patterns were similar to the effects of acute use in lower doses, but lasted longer. However, when the EEG records were examined after a few days of abstinence, no abnormalities or drug effects were left. In sum, cannabis produced a transient CNS effect (toxic psychosis in a technical sense) which had no long lasting component. Similar to the psychologic tests. The very absence of the findings in our study, and in the other studies is the remarkable fact. Like the story by Conan Doyle, the significance of the dog's not barking was the critical clue-- the absence of neurologic and neuropsychologic effects is the important clue. You could emphasize these more.

Thanks for the chance to read the review. Good luck.

Sincerely yours,

Max Fink, M.D.