

REVIEWING “APINACA”, AN EMERGENT SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID RECEPTOR AGONIST

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Introduction

Since 1990 there is an increase in the synthesis and in some cases the preclinical evaluation of new molecules that act on the cannabinoid synthesis, but no one have been marketed as a medicine. Recently, with the proliferation of New Psychoactive substances (NPS), an important number of synthetic cannabinoid appeared in the “legal high” market as Spice or other names. There is almost no research available and, despite its widespread use, the animal or human pharmacology of substances is unknown.

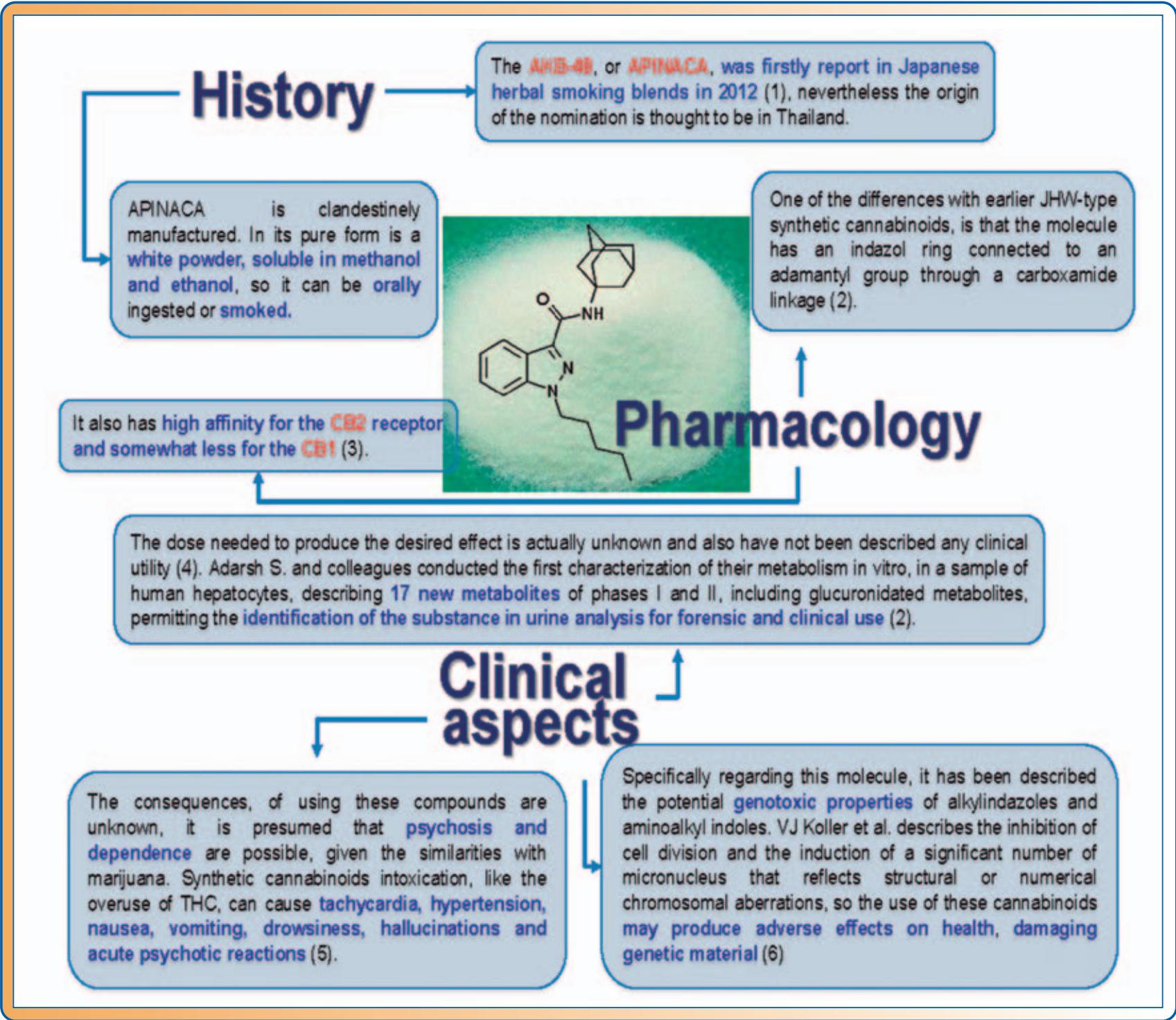
Objective

Reviewing literature for exposing the history and current state of knowledge of the AKB-48 molecule.

Material and methods

A review of the publications of the molecule is done by searching for keywords “AKB-48” “AKB48” “APINACA” “Synthetic cannabinoids” in Pubmed and Google scholar .

Results - Review



Conclusions

The European Early Warning System (EWS) informs specially an increase in the detection of new cannabinoids that are sold like “legal alternatives” of marijuana. APINACA is currently not under international control and, as we can see in this review, there is a lack of evidence and it has been described a potential harm. Further characterization of pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of the compound is needed and also it’s necessary to know the actual epidemiology of the use of this substance in order to determine the impact of its consumption and provide more information in understanding the cannabinoid system.

References

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