**2019 North American Cannabis Summit**

**Newsletter Copy, Tuesday, November 20, 2018**

**Subject line: Expert on Medicinal Cannabis to Deliver Keynote at 2019 North American Cannabis Summit**

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| **Marijuana as Medicine: Can We See Past the Smoke?** **Current Evidence, Regulatory Issues, and Future Opportunities** |
| Medicinal use of marijuana is now legal throughout Mexico and Canada, as well as in 33 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. In June of this year, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved, for the first time, a drug that contains purified cannabidiol. It will be used to treat seizures associated with rare forms of epilepsy, one of many medical conditions of interest to medical cannabis researchers. It is especially timely, then, that we announce Dr. Igor Grant’s participation in the 2019 North American Cannabis Summit. Igor Grant, Department of Psychiatry Chair University of California, San Diegocid:image001.jpg@01D47CC4.204EDAE0Dr. Grant directs the University of California, San Diego Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research, as well as the HIV Neurobehavioral Research Program. He is the founding editor of the *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society* and founding co-editor of the journal *AIDS and Behavior*.Dr. Grant will present a keynote address on how advances in neurobiology are fueling a new understanding of the potential therapeutic role of cannabis and various natural and synthetic cannabinoids. In addition to reviewing the evidence for therapeutic efficacy of cannabis with respect to specific conditions, such as neuropathic pain and muscle spasticity, he will discuss possible evolution of therapies. To hear Dr. Grant at the Summit, be sure to [register](http://northamericancannabissummit.org/register/) now. For more information about the Summit, go to <http://northamericancannabissummit.org/> |
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| **HIV, Cannabis, and Health Equity**Individuals living with HIV/AIDS have long used cannabis to cope with symptoms associated with the virus and antiretroviral therapy. Minorities, especially African-Americans, are disproportionately impacted by HIV, as well as other conditions that may be alleviated by cannabis therapy. Unfortunately, minorities are also more often denied access to medical marijuana due to structural barriers. The Summit is committed to raising awareness of such health disparities. Join us to share and learn best practices that promote equity for disadvantaged and vulnerable people, a theme that will be infused throughout the Summit tracks:* Public safety
* Prevention and education
* Emerging research and epidemiological data
* Governance, federal law, and emerging policy
* Health effects
* Regulatory issues

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