

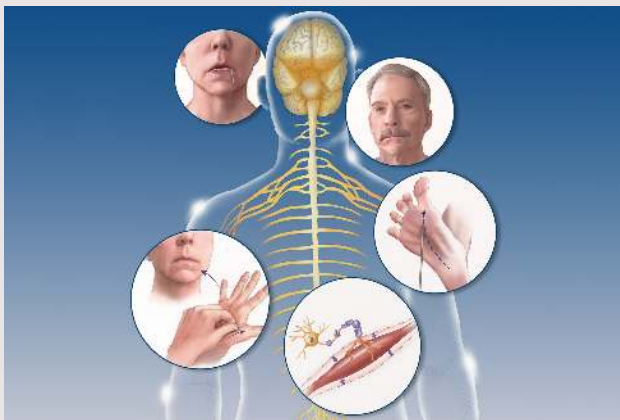
Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

Insights into winning the battle
with ALS using Personalized
Custom Cannabinoid Therapy

Michael P Weaver

Chapter 1: The Diagnosis

ALS, or amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, is a devastating neurodegenerative disease that affects the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord. One of the most crucial aspects of managing ALS is recognizing the early warning signs and symptoms. In this chapter, we will explore the initial symptoms of ALS that healthcare professionals should be aware of in order to provide timely and effective care to patients.



The initial symptoms of ALS can vary from person to person, but they typically involve slow progressing muscle weakness or stiffness in the hands, feet, legs, and ankles; difficulty walking, swallowing, or holding the head up; muscle cramps; twitching in the arms, shoulders, and tongue; and slurred speech. This is generally followed by progressive weakness, wasting, and paralysis of the muscles of the limbs and trunk, as well as loss of control of vital functions such as speech, swallowing, and eventually breathing. These symptoms can be subtle at first, making it challenging to diagnose ALS in its early stages. However, your healthcare professional should be vigilant in monitoring their patients for any signs of muscle weakness or changes in motor function.

As the disease progresses, patients with ALS may develop symptoms such as excess saliva, muscle cramps, slurred speech, trouble walking, progressive weakness, wasting, and paralysis of the muscles of the limbs and trunk, as well as loss of control of vital functions such as speech, swallowing, and eventually breathing. These symptoms can progress rapidly and can significantly impact a patient's quality of life and ability to perform daily activities. It's important that patients are diagnosed in the early stages of symptom onset in order to get the most effective results with the therapy available. Healthcare professionals play a crucial role in helping patients monitor and manage these symptoms as they progress and help maintain patients independence for as long as possible.

ALS can affect anyone worldwide regardless of racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic status. In general, symptoms commonly develop between the ages of 40 and 70, with the average being 55 years at diagnosis. The disease is most common among people 60 years or older, but nearly 10 percent of ALS patients are 45 or younger. Although ALS is 20 percent more likely to develop in men than in women, with advancing age, the gender difference lessens. Moreover, Caucasians and non-Hispanics are more likely to develop ALS compared with other ethnic groups. According to the ALS Patient Care Database, 93 percent of ALS patients were Caucasian, but this may be due to more cases being recorded for Caucasians than other ethnic groups. Studies suggest that military veterans are about 1.5–2 times more likely to develop ALS.

This could be because of their exposure to lead, pesticides, and other environmental toxins. It's thought that military veterans deployed during the Gulf War were twice as likely to develop ALS compared with non-veterans.



ALS AND THE MILITARY

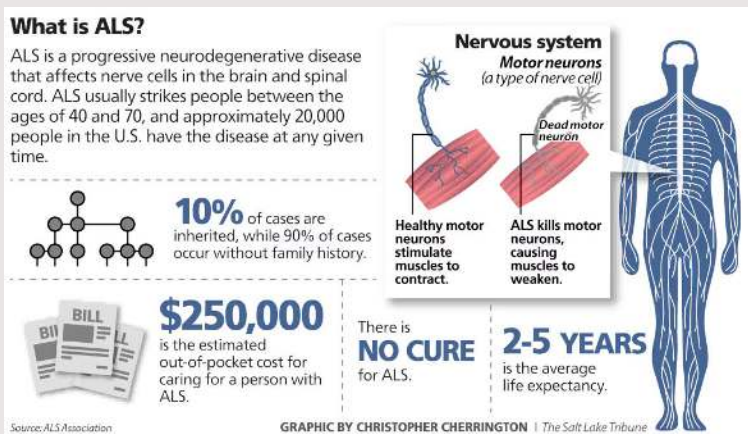
Veterans are 2x as likely to get ALS

- ALS affects veterans who served in peacetime and war
- ALS impacts veterans, regardless of the branch of service or the war they served in

According to the ALS Association, approximately 5,000 people in the U.S. are diagnosed with or die from symptoms of ALS each year, which averages to about 15 new cases and 15 deaths each day. It is estimated that up to 20,000 Americans have the disease at any given time. Estimates suggest that ALS is responsible for as many as five in every 100,000 deaths in people 20 years or older.

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Although the average life expectancy of a person with ALS is about two to five years from the time of diagnosis, some people can live with the disease for more than five years. More than half of all ALS patients live more than three years after diagnosis, 20 percent live five years or more, up to 10 percent live more than 10 years, and less than five percent live 20 years or more

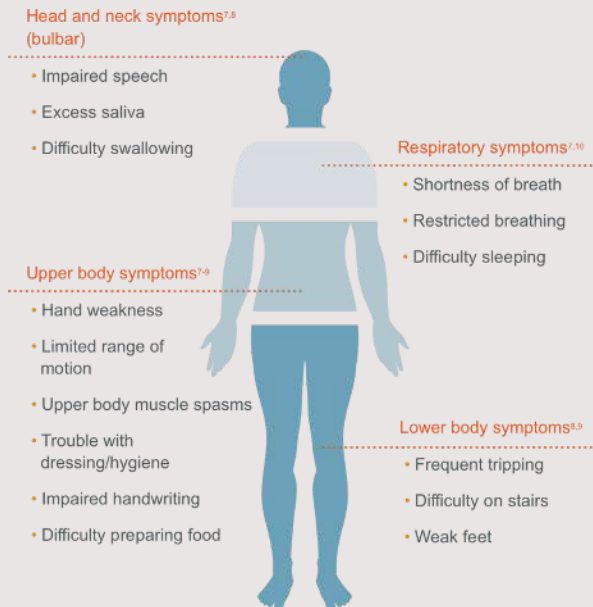


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In Mike's case, in 2010, he first experienced muscle weakness, difficulty with balance and walking. Before being diagnosed with ALS in 2012 his symptoms were progressing rapidly going from tripping and stumbling to walking with a cane and eventually into a wheelchair. During the process to being diagnosed, the experience of all the testing, shocking his muscles, injections for MRI tests, clearly sped up the progression of his illness. It would take Mike several days to recover from some of these appointments. Then on a chilly day just before Christmas, at his final appointment before the holiday, the doctor took Mike's wife with his new born son into the hallway and said "it is not likely Mike will see his son turn 6 years old.". Once Mike was informed of this diagnosis he had a few choice words to the doctor, "

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Fuck you, you don't know me. and you'll never see me again." . the ALS specialist, with his flow chart of symptoms went on to read that there is no cure and very little hope for any recommended treatments to extend life by more than a few months. On Mike's way home thinking to himself, how long do I have to live? Who knows me better then me?

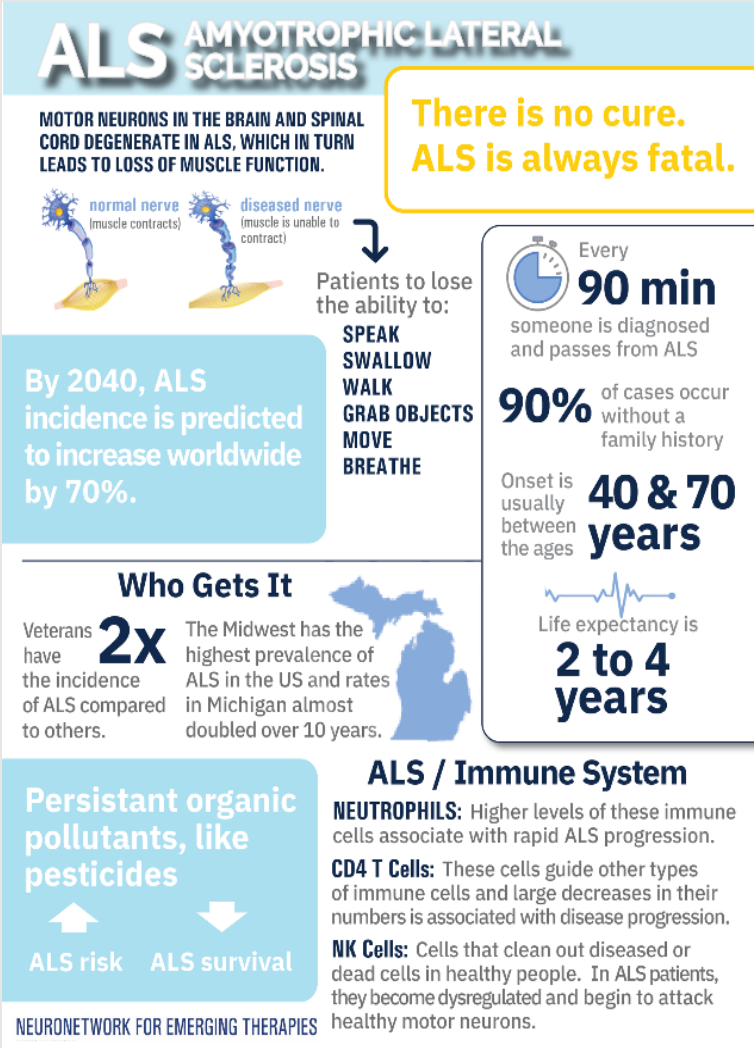


The emotional impact of an ALS diagnosis is profound and life-changing for both the patient and their loved ones. Entering in to the unknown can be very traumatic having severe impact on the ALS patient. Upon receiving the news of their diagnosis, individuals may experience a range of emotions, including shock, fear, anger, sadness, anxiety, depression and uncertainty about the future.

These emotions can be very stressful which could ultimately speed up the progression of advancing symptoms. For Mike, the protagonist of this story, the emotional toll of his ALS diagnosis was overwhelming. He struggled to come to terms with the reality of his condition and the limitations it placed on his once-active lifestyle.

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In addition to the physical symptoms, anxiety and depression when diagnosed, play a major factor in the lifespan of ALS patients.



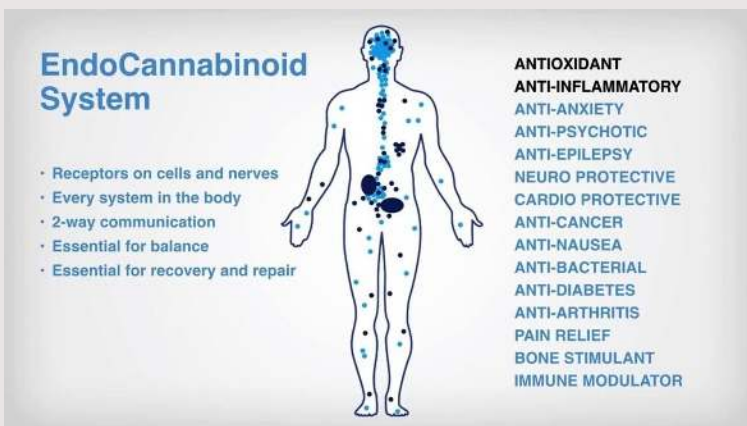
As healthcare professionals specializing in ALS, it is important to recognize and address the emotional impact of the diagnosis on patients like Mike. Providing compassionate care and support can help patients cope with their feelings of grief and loss, as well as navigate the challenges of living with a progressive neurological disease. By acknowledging and validating their emotions, healthcare professionals can help patients feel heard and understood, which can in turn improve their overall quality of life. Studies show that CBD may help alleviate depression by altering serotonin levels in the brain. More research is needed to understand how it can be used as an effective treatment to alleviate depression.

But it's not only up to the healthcare professionals and family members to come to prescribe the antidote for your diagnosis. It's up to the patient to determine the proper therapy or counseling that fits their individual needs. Each ALS patient suffers from unique array of symptoms in comparison to another ALS patient.

Table 1. Properties of marijuana applicable to ALS symptom management	
ALS symptom	Marijuana effect
Pain	Nonopioid analgesia and anti-inflammatory
Spasticity	Muscle relaxant
Wasting	Appetite stimulant
Dyspnea	Bronchodilation
Drooling	Dry mouth
Depression	Euphoria
Dysautonomia	Vasodilation
Neuronal oxidation	Neuroprotective antioxidant

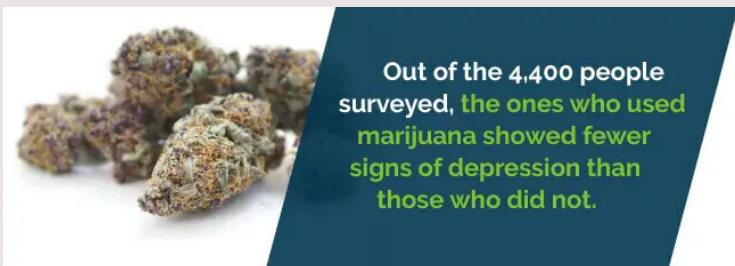
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In Mike's case, the emotional impact of his diagnosis was mitigated by the early on introduction of cannabinoid therapy as his treatment plan. This innovative approach not only helped to alleviate his physical symptoms but also had a profound effect on his emotional well-being. By providing relief from pain and muscle stiffness, cannabinoid therapy allowed Mike to regain a sense of control over his body and his life, reducing feelings of helplessness and despair.



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The positive effects of cannabinoid therapy on Mike's emotional state were evident to his family, who observed a marked improvement in his overall mood and outlook on life. By addressing both the physical and emotional aspects of his condition, he was able to develop a cannabinoid therapy regimen that truly made a difference in Mike's journey with ALS. This case study serves as a powerful reminder of the impact that personalized, patient-centered care can have on individuals living with progressive diseases like ALS. Addressing each individual's symptoms is a key factor in treating each patient's individual illness.

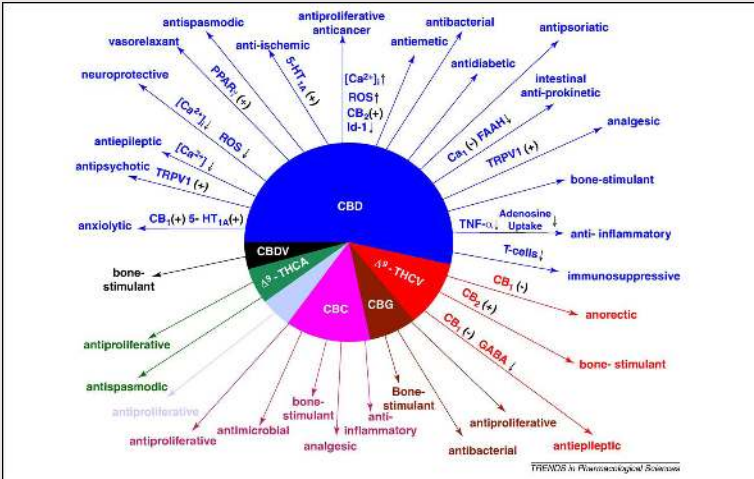


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Already a frequent marijuana user, Mike was using marijuana to sooth his emotions from the diagnosis of this devastating illness. Starting in June, 2014 Medical Marijuana was approved and cards were being issued in the state of Maryland. Mike, just over the border in Pennsylvania not far from Baltimore, Mike was able to make an appointment with the head of medical marijuana program doctor in Maryland. At his appointment Mike became the first out-of-state patient to be approved for a Maryland medical marijuana card. Since there was not medical marijuana dispensaries slated to open anytime soon, Mike's doctor offered him a legal Hemp oil CBD pill. Reluctantly, Mike tried the CBD pill. On his drive home, from the effects of the pill, Mike recognized he was beginning to feel at ease.

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Even with excessive marijuana use, these Hemp oil pills were causing a different reaction then the marijuana. Despite Mike's over 20 years in the hemp industry, that day in 2014 Mike began his journey into custom cannabinoid therapy.

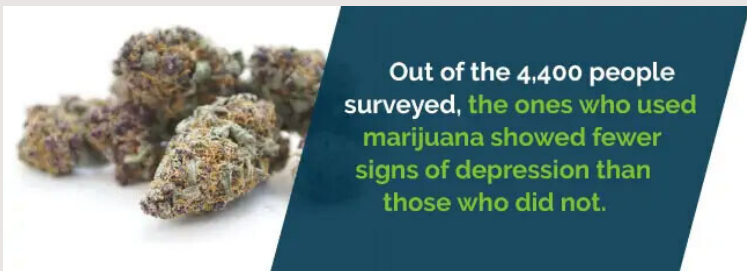


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In conclusion, recognizing the initial symptoms of ALS is essential for healthcare professionals to provide timely and effective care to patients like Mike. By monitoring patients for muscle weakness or stiffness in the hands, feet, legs, and ankles; difficulty walking, swallowing, or holding the head up, muscle cramps, twitching in the arms, shoulders, and tongue, slurred speech and changes in motor function, healthcare professionals can help diagnose ALS early and develop comprehensive treatment plans to manage symptoms and improve quality of life. Mike's journey with cannabinoid therapy serves as a powerful example of how innovative treatments can make a difference in the lives of patients with ALS.

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The emotional impact of an ALS diagnosis cannot be underestimated, and healthcare professionals play a crucial role in supporting patients through this difficult time. By acknowledging and addressing their emotional needs, as well as providing innovative treatment options like cannabinoid therapy, we can help patients like Mike find hope and resilience in the face of adversity.



Chapter 2: Traditional Treatments for ALS

Acting swiftly and aggressively, Mike was able to severely impact the progression of the disease and substantially improve his quality of life. With a better outlook on life and living, Mike was able to slowly regain some function in his ability to walk and speak. Mike began to study and understand more about the cannabinoids that are responsible for his success. Certain cannabinoids administered in the right proportions are showing promising results in combating the symptoms of ALS. Healthcare professionals can learn from Mike's story and consider incorporating cannabinoid therapy into their treatment plans for patients with ALS.

In Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS, we delve into the groundbreaking use of cannabinoid therapy in the treatment of ALS. This chapter explores the medications and therapies typically used in the management of this devastating disease. ALS healthcare professionals will find invaluable insights into the latest approaches to slowing the progression of ALS and improving quality of life for patients like Mike.

One of the key medications used in the treatment of ALS is Riluzole. This FDA-approved drug has been shown to modestly extend survival in patients with ALS by reducing the release of glutamate, a neurotransmitter that can damage nerve cells. Riluzole is often prescribed early in the course of the disease to help slow its progression and improve overall outcomes.

Another is Edaravone, sold under the brand name Radicava among others, is a medication used to treat stroke and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. It is given by intravenous infusion and by mouth. The most common side effects include bruising, problems walking, and headaches. Edaravone is often prescribed early in the course of the disease to help ease symptoms and slow the progression.

In addition to traditional medications like Riluzole, many ALS healthcare professionals are now exploring the use of cannabinoid therapy in the treatment of the disease. Significant advances have increased our understanding of the molecular mechanisms of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), yet this has not translated into any greatly effective therapies. It appears that a number of abnormal physiological processes occur simultaneously in this devastating disease.

Ideally, a multidrug regimen, including glutamate antagonists, antioxidants, a centrally acting anti-inflammatory agent, microglial cell modulators (including tumor necrosis factor alpha [TNF-alpha] inhibitors), an antiapoptotic agent, 1 or more neurotrophic growth factors, and a mitochondrial function-enhancing agent would be required to comprehensively address the known pathophysiology of ALS. Remarkably, cannabis appears to have activity in all of those areas. Preclinical data indicate that cannabis has powerful antioxidative, anti-inflammatory, and neuroprotective effects. In the G93A-SOD1 ALS mouse, this has translated to prolonged neuronal cell survival, delayed onset, and slower progression of the disease.

Cannabis also has properties applicable to symptom management of ALS, including analgesia, muscle relaxation, bronchodilation, saliva reduction, appetite stimulation, and sleep induction. With respect to the treatment of ALS, from both a disease modifying and symptom management viewpoint, clinical trials with cannabis are the next logical step. Based on the currently available scientific data, it is reasonable to think that cannabis might significantly slow the progression of ALS, potentially extending life expectancy and substantially reducing the overall burden of the disease.

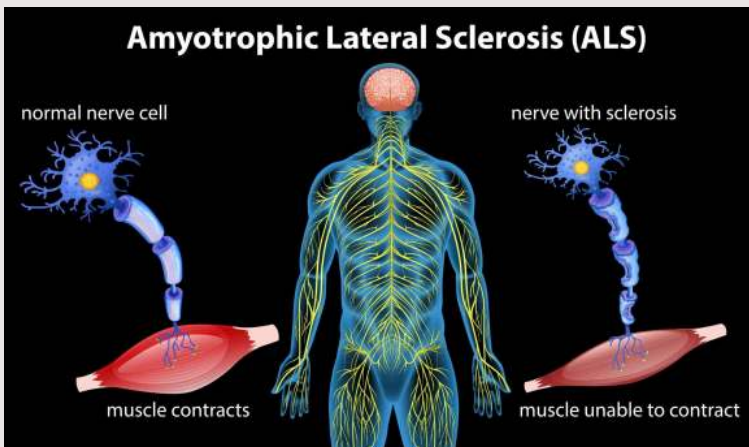
Another common therapy used in the treatment of ALS is physical therapy. Physical therapy can help patients maintain muscle strength and flexibility, improve balance and coordination, and reduce the risk of falls and injuries. By incorporating physical therapy into a comprehensive treatment plan, healthcare professionals can help patients maintain their independence and quality of life for as long as possible.

The fact is, the medications and therapies typically used in the treatment of ALS are evolving rapidly, with new approaches like cannabinoid therapy showing great promise in slowing the progression of the disease and improving outcomes for patients. ALS healthcare professionals who are dedicated to staying at the forefront of research and innovation can make a real difference in the lives of patients like Mike by offering cutting-edge treatments and therapies that provide hope and relief in the face of this devastating disease.

There are many difficulties faced by patients with ALS when it comes to traditional treatment options. Despite advancements in medical science, the current treatments available for ALS only provide symptomatic relief and do not address the underlying cause of the disease. This leaves patients and healthcare professionals frustrated as they try to navigate the limitations of these treatments.

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One of the biggest challenges of traditional treatments for ALS is their inability to slow down the progression of the disease. The relentless deterioration of motor neurons leads to a rapid decline in muscle function, ultimately resulting in paralysis and respiratory failure. This puts immense pressure on patients and their families as they witness the debilitating effects of the disease without any hope for a cure or effective treatment.



Another limitation of traditional treatments for ALS is their side effects, which can often outweigh the benefits. Medications like riluzole and edaravone come with a host of adverse reactions, including nausea, fatigue, and liver damage. This presents a dilemma for healthcare professionals who must weigh the potential benefits of these medications against the risks they pose to patients already battling a progressive and debilitating disease.

TABLE 1. APPROVED DISEASE MODIFYING TREATMENTS FOR AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS		
	Riluzole	Edaravone ^a
Dose	50 mg orally twice daily (suspension, tablet, or film)	60 mg/day IV on 10 days/month
Mechanism of action	Glutamate inhibition	Free radical scavenger
Side effects	Anaphylaxis, hepatotoxicity, neutropenia, interstitial lung disease, and pneumonitis	Anaphylaxis, hypersensitivity, erythema multiforme, and intravenous administration complications
Efficacy in clinical trials	12-month survival was 74% with riluzole vs 58% with placebo	At 24 weeks decline on ALSFRS was 2.49 points less with edaravone vs placebo
^a Insurance companies will typically approve reimbursement of edaravone only for adults who have had ALS for 2 years or less and still have 80% FVC and score of at least 2 on every ALSFRS item. Abbreviations: ALSFRS, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis functional rating scale; FVC, functional vital capacity; IV, intravenous.		

Furthermore, the high cost of traditional ALS treatments can place a significant financial burden on patients and their families. From expensive medications to costly medical equipment and home care services, the financial strain of managing ALS can be overwhelming. This highlights the urgent need for more affordable and accessible treatment options like Cannabinoid Therapy that can improve the quality of life for patients with ALS.

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In light of these challenges and limitations, the story of Mike's journey with cannabinoid therapy offers a glimmer of hope for patients and healthcare professionals alike. By sharing his experience of how cannabinoid therapy severely impacted the progression of his ALS, Mike has inspired a new wave of research and exploration into alternative treatment options for this devastating disease. As we continue to learn more about the potential benefits of cannabinoids in managing ALS symptoms, it is crucial that we remain open-minded and proactive in our approach to finding innovative solutions for patients in need.

Chapter 3: Discovering Cannabinoid Therapy

Research on the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy for ALS is a rapidly growing area of interest among healthcare professionals specializing in ALS. Numerous studies have highlighted the neuroprotective and anti-inflammatory properties of cannabinoids, the active compounds in cannabis, which show promise in potentially slowing down the progression of ALS. This research is particularly significant for healthcare professionals who have witnessed the devastating impact of ALS on their patients, such as in the case of Mike. Mike's journey serves as a compelling example of how cannabinoid therapy has had a profound effect on the progression of his ALS.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

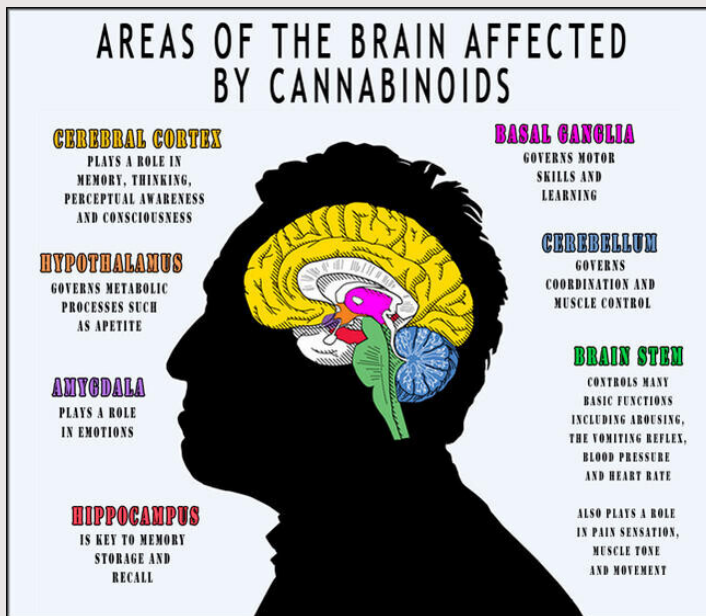
Following his diagnosis, Mike turned to medical cannabis as a last resort and was pleasantly surprised by the significant improvements he experienced in his symptoms, including reduced muscle stiffness and enhanced mobility. This positive outcome prompted him to delve deeper into the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy, ultimately leading to a remarkable enhancement in his overall quality of life. A study published in the journal *Neurology* revealed that ALS patients who utilized cannabis experienced notable improvements in muscle spasticity and respiratory function compared to those who did not.

Another study published in the Journal of Neurochemistry highlighted the neuroprotective properties of cannabinoids that could potentially slow down the progression of ALS. These findings offer promising evidence for the efficacy of cannabinoid therapy in ALS patients.

There has been very little peer reviewed research about the effects of cannabis on people living with ALS, but more is in the works. One survey found that cannabis may be effective at reducing certain symptoms. These included appetite loss, pain, depression, spasticity, and drooling. This study did not focus on the effectiveness in treating speaking and swallowing troubles. The effect on sexual dysfunction is still being studied.

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There is some evidence that cannabis can augment the pain-relieving effects of opioid pain medications, which are commonly used among ALS patients. The effects of cannabis on multiple sclerosis (MS) has been studied more than ALS. Several studies have found that cannabis can treat spasticity in MS. This may indicate that cannabis can help with spasticity in people living with ALS.



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Although further research is essential to fully comprehend how cannabinoids may benefit individuals with ALS, the existing studies offer a ray of hope for those grappling with this debilitating disease. Healthcare professionals specializing in ALS should consider integrating cannabinoid therapy into their treatment plans, particularly for patients like Mike who have witnessed significant improvements in their symptoms and overall well-being through the use of medical cannabis. When faced with a dire diagnosis like ALS, patients and their caregivers are often willing to explore all available avenues for relief and enhancement.



Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

In Mike's case, given the limited options provided by traditional medicine and his extensive experience in the cannabis industry, the decision to explore alternative treatments like cannabinoid therapy was a natural progression. Only after thorough research and consultation with experts did Mike conclude that cannabinoid therapy was the most suitable option for him. The choice to explore alternative treatments such as cannabinoid therapy was made early in the onset of Mike's ALS symptoms. As healthcare professionals, it is imperative to approach such decisions with an open mind to facilitate early implementation in the diagnosis process. In Mike's case, the results were nothing short of miraculous.

Not only did cannabinoid therapy alleviate most of his symptoms, but it also significantly impacted the progression of his ALS, offering him renewed hope and a better quality of life. For healthcare professionals specializing in ALS, staying abreast of the latest research and advancements in alternative treatments like cannabinoid therapy is crucial. While traditional medicine plays a role in symptom management for ALS, exploring complementary therapies can yield additional benefits for patients like Mike. By embracing new possibilities and thinking outside the conventional treatment box, healthcare professionals can assist their patients in accessing optimal care and achieving favorable outcomes.

In conclusion, the ongoing research on the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy for ALS presents a promising avenue for patients like Mike. By exploring the neuroprotective and anti-inflammatory properties of cannabinoids, healthcare professionals have the potential to slow down the progression of ALS and enhance the quality of life for their patients. Mike's story stands as a compelling testament to the positive impact of cannabinoid therapy on individuals with ALS, motivating healthcare professionals to delve deeper into this promising treatment approach. The decision to explore alternative treatments like cannabinoid therapy can have a profound effect on individuals with ALS.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

Mike's experience underscores the potential benefits of incorporating complementary therapies into treatment plans for this challenging disease. As healthcare professionals, it is incumbent upon us to stay informed, open-minded, and willing to explore all available options for the well-being of our patients. By collaborating with patients and their caregivers to consider alternative treatments, we can contribute to improved outcomes and quality of life for those grappling with ALS. It is essential that healthcare professionals remain vigilant in their pursuit of new research and advancements in the field of cannabinoid therapy for ALS.

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By continuously expanding their knowledge and expertise in this area, professionals can offer enhanced care and support to patients like Mike, who have experienced firsthand the positive effects of alternative treatments. Through ongoing education and collaboration with experts in the field, healthcare professionals can stay at the forefront of innovative therapies and provide patients with the best possible outcomes. Mike's journey serves as a powerful reminder of the impact that proactive exploration of alternative treatments can have on individuals facing challenging health conditions. By remaining proactive and open to new possibilities, healthcare professionals can pave the way for improved quality of life and symptom management for patients with ALS.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

In the ever-evolving landscape of medical treatments, the integration of cannabinoid therapy holds immense promise for individuals like Mike, offering a beacon of hope and potential relief in the face of a complex and debilitating disease. It is through a combination of research, collaboration, and open-mindedness that healthcare professionals can continue to make strides in enhancing the care and outcomes for patients with ALS.

Chapter 4: Implementing Cannabinoid Therapy

Finding a source for custom cannabinoid products can be a crucial step in utilizing cannabinoid therapy to severely impact the progression of ALS. As healthcare professionals working with ALS patients, it is important to understand the importance of sourcing high-quality, custom cannabinoid products for optimal results. In Mike's journey, finding the right source for his custom cannabinoid products played a significant role in his successful treatment plan.

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When looking for a source for custom cannabinoid products, it is essential to consider factors such as the quality of the products, the expertise of the supplier, and the ability to create custom formulations tailored to the specific needs of ALS patients. Working with a reputable supplier who understand the unique challenges of ALS and the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy can make a significant difference in the success of treatment.



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In Mike's case, difficulty in finding a source for custom cannabinoid products that could provide him with personalized formulations tailored to his specific symptoms and needs is what lead him to found Canna-Pharms. Working with his knowledge of cannabis combined with first hand knowledge of the complexities of ALS and the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy, Mike was able to severely impact the progression of his disease and improve his own quality of life.



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As healthcare professionals, it is important to do thorough research and due diligence when selecting a source for custom cannabinoid products. By choosing a supplier with a track record of success in treating ALS patients and a commitment to quality and customization, healthcare professionals can ensure that their patients receive the best possible care and outcomes.



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In Mike's case, his rapid progression, after 30 months since onset, left him struggling to swallow, losing his ability to walk, loss of motor functions and shallow breathing. This is when Mike began his research into cannabis, it's over 100 cannabinoids, and the benefits they contributed to cannabinoid therapy. Within the 6 months after being diagnosed Mike began taking doses of isolate cannabinoids in different proportions finding the best combination to best treat his symptoms. Mike educated himself into a cannabis expert and began finding a source for cannabinoid isolate products which is a critical step in utilizing cannabinoid therapy to severely impact the progression of ALS. By working with reputable suppliers and farmers Mike was able to obtain cannabis extracts not available to the public.

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Now, Mike was able to produce a personalized formulations tailored to his specific needs. Healthcare professionals can help their patients achieve optimal results and improve their quality of life by incorporating a cannabis expert in the decision to implement cannabinoid therapy. Mike's journey is a testament to the importance of finding the right source for custom cannabinoid products in the treatment of ALS.



Creating a personalized cannabinoid treatment plan is crucial for patients like Mike who are battling ALS. As healthcare professionals, it is important to recognize that each patient's experience with ALS is unique, and their treatment plan should reflect that. By tailoring the treatment plan to each individual patient, we can optimize the benefits of cannabinoid therapy and potentially severely impact the progression of the disease. For example, CBN has been shown to delay symptom onset of Lou Gehrig's disease in mice. It also has antiinflammatory and pain relieving properties. CBG acting as an antibacterial and antifungal agent, reducing inflammation, antioxidant properties, and also acting as a neuroprotectant.

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And CBD reacts with and can increase production of the endocannabinoid 2-Arachidonolyglycerol (2-AG). 2-AG regulates several functions including sleep, memory, mood, appetite, and pain reception.



When creating a personalized cannabinoid treatment plan for a patient with ALS, it is essential to consider their specific symptoms and needs. For example, if a patient is experiencing muscle stiffness and spasms, they may benefit from a combination of CBN and CBD to help relax their muscles and reduce spasms. On the other hand, if a patient is struggling with pain and inflammation, a higher concentration of CBD may be more beneficial. CBDV has shown promise for treating the terrible effects of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. This debilitating disease is known to cause irreversible muscle damage and degeneration. Patients also experience chronic inflammation. In addition to reducing inflammation, CBDV can also restore some muscle function.

In addition to considering the patient's symptoms, it is also important to take into account their overall health and medical history when creating a cannabinoid treatment plan. Some patients may have underlying health conditions or be taking other medications that could interact with cannabinoids, so it is important to conduct a thorough assessment before initiating treatment. By taking a holistic approach to treatment, healthcare professionals can ensure that the patient receives the most effective and safe care.

Monitoring and adjusting the cannabinoid treatment plan is also crucial in ensuring its effectiveness. Patients with ALS may experience changes in their symptoms over time, so it is important to regularly assess their progress and make any necessary adjustments to their treatment plan. By closely monitoring the patient's response to treatment, healthcare professionals can fine-tune the dosage and cannabinoid ratios to achieve the best possible outcomes.

In conclusion, creating a personalized cannabinoid treatment plan for patients with ALS is a complex but essential process. By tailoring the treatment plan to each individual patient's needs and closely monitoring their progress, healthcare professionals can help severely impact the progression of the disease and improve their quality of life. Mike's story serves as a powerful reminder of the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy in the treatment of ALS, and by following a personalized treatment plan, we can continue to make strides in improving the lives of patients with this devastating disease.

Chapter 5: Monitoring Progress

One of the key aspects of tracking symptoms in ALS patients is identifying changes in muscle strength, coordination, and mobility. By closely monitoring these symptoms, healthcare professionals can assess the progression of the disease and make necessary adjustments to the patient's treatment plan. In Mike's case, the use of cannabinoid therapy helped to slow down the progression of his ALS symptoms, allowing him to maintain a higher level of function for a longer period of time.

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In addition to tracking physical symptoms, healthcare professionals should also pay close attention to changes in respiratory function, speech, and swallowing in ALS patients. These symptoms can have a significant impact on the patient's quality of life and may require interventions such as respiratory support or speech therapy. By monitoring these symptoms closely, healthcare professionals can provide a timely diagnosis and early interventions to help improve the patient's overall well-being.



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Cannabinoid therapy has shown promise in helping to alleviate symptoms such as muscle spasticity, pain, and appetite loss in ALS patients. By tracking the effects of cannabinoid therapy on these symptoms, healthcare professionals can tailor the treatment plan to meet the individual needs of each patient. In Mike's journey, cannabinoid therapy played a crucial role in severely impacting the progression of his ALS symptoms, allowing him to maintain a better quality of life for much longer.

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In the ongoing battle against Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), healthcare professionals must be prepared to explore alternative treatment plans to provide the best possible care for their patients. Mike's journey serves as a powerful example of the positive impact that cannabinoid therapy can have in severely impacting the progression of this debilitating disease. As healthcare professionals specializing in ALS, it is crucial to closely monitor patients' responses to treatments and make adjustments as necessary to ensure the most effective outcomes.

One of the key lessons we can learn from Mike's story is the importance of individualized treatment plans for patients with ALS. While traditional treatments may have limited efficacy, cannabinoid therapy has shown great promise in slowing the progression of the disease. By carefully monitoring patients' symptoms and aggressive dosages of specific cannabinoids, healthcare professionals can tailor treatment plans to meet the specific needs of each individual. This personalized approach will lead to improved outcomes and a higher quality of life for patients with ALS.

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In addition to proper dosages of cannabinoids, healthcare professionals must also be prepared to consider alternative treatment options for patients with ALS. Mike's experience highlights the potential benefits of incorporating complementary therapies, such as physical therapy or dietary changes, into a comprehensive treatment plan. By taking a holistic approach to care, healthcare professionals can address the diverse needs of patients with ALS and maximize their overall well-being.

Furthermore, it is essential for healthcare professionals to stay informed about the latest research and developments in the field of ALS treatment. As new studies emerge and novel therapies become available, it is important to remain open-minded and willing to explore alternative approaches to care. By staying up-to-date on the latest advancements, healthcare professionals can offer their patients the most cutting-edge and effective treatment options available.

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In conclusion, Mike's journey serves as a poignant reminder of the power of cannabinoid therapy in severely impacting the progression of ALS. As healthcare professionals specializing in this field, it is our responsibility to closely monitor patients' responses to treatment, adjust plans as needed, and consider alternative therapies to provide the best possible care. By taking a personalized and holistic approach to treatment, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of patients with ALS and help them live their best lives possible.

Chapter 6: Results and Improvements

Preclinical models indicate that cannabinoids hold the potential to delay ALS progression, lending support to anecdotal reports by some patients that cannabinoids may be efficacious in moderating the disease's development and in alleviating certain ALS-related symptoms, such as pain, appetite loss, spasticity, depression, and drooling.



Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

After starting cannabinoid therapy, Mike noticed a significant decrease in muscle stiffness and spasticity, two common symptoms of ALS. This improvement allowed him to move more freely and with less discomfort, ultimately enhancing his overall quality of life. In addition to the physical benefits, Mike also experienced improvements in his mental well-being and emotional state. He reported feeling less anxious and more at ease, and when smoking Marijuana it broke up his phlegm and congestion making it easier to breathe which greatly contributed to his overall sense of well-being. By addressing both the physical and emotional aspects of ALS symptoms, cannabinoid therapy was able to provide a holistic approach to managing the disease and improving Mike's quality of life.

For example, investigators at the California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco reported in the journal *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis & Other Motor Neuron Disorders* that the administration of THC both before and after the onset of ALS symptoms staved off disease progression and prolonged survival in animals compared to untreated controls. In another study, University of Arkansas researchers reported that the administration of the cannabinoid agonist AM-1241 more than doubled survival rates compared to controls. “The magnitude of effect produced by AM-1241 initiated at symptom onset rivals the best yet reported for any pharmaceutical agent, even those given pre-symptomatically,” authors concluded.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

A study of plant-derived cannabis extracts also documented delayed ALS progression during early stages of the disease in a mouse model. Most recently, scientists have also concluded that CBD may possess disease-modifying potential for ALS.

Mike's story highlights the importance of personalized medicine in treating ALS. Each patient may respond differently to various treatments, and it is essential for healthcare professionals to consider all available options in order to optimize patient care. By incorporating cannabinoid therapy into his treatment plan, Mike was able to find relief from his symptoms and improve his quality of life in ways that traditional medications could not provide.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

In conclusion, Mike's journey serves as a powerful example of how cannabinoid therapy can positively impact the symptoms and quality of life of individuals with ALS. As healthcare professionals specializing in ALS, it is crucial for us to remain open-minded and explore alternative treatments that may benefit our patients. By learning from cases like Mike's and considering all available options, we can work towards improving the lives of those living with this devastating disease.

Mike's journey with ALS began in 2010, filled with challenges and uncertainties. However, 3 years later, after incorporating cannabinoid therapy into his treatment regimen, he experienced a significant improvement in his symptoms and quality of life.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

One of the most noticeable effects of cannabinoid therapy on Mike's ALS progression was the reduction in muscle spasticity and stiffness. Before starting cannabinoid therapy, Mike struggled with severe muscle cramps and spasms that made it difficult for him to move and perform daily tasks. However, after incorporating specific cannabinoids into his treatment plan, he noticed a significant decrease in the frequency and intensity of these symptoms. This improvement not only made it easier for Mike to move around and maintain his independence but also helped alleviate the pain and discomfort associated with muscle spasticity.

Another crucial role cannabinoid therapy played in his symptoms was managing Mike's pain levels. ALS is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that can cause severe pain and discomfort as the condition worsens. By utilizing specific anti-inflammatory cannabinoids such as CBD and CBG as part of his pain management strategy, Mike was able to justify his opposition to traditional pain medications, which often come with unwanted side effects. The anti-inflammatory and analgesic properties of these specific cannabinoids helped alleviate Mike's pain, allowing him to focus on other aspects of his treatment and overall well-being.

Additionally, cannabinoid therapy had a positive impact on Mike's mood and mental health. Dealing with a terminal illness like ALS can take a toll on a person's mental health, leading to feelings of anxiety, depression, and hopelessness. However, by incorporating cannabinoids into his treatment plan, Mike experienced a sense of calmness and improved mood. The anxiolytic and antidepressant effects of cannabinoids helped him cope with the emotional challenges of living with ALS, allowing him to maintain a positive outlook and quality of life.

Furthermore, cannabinoid therapy has shown to slow the progression of symptoms of ALS. Acting as a neuroprotectant cannabinoid therapy translated to prolonged neuronal cell survival, delayed onset, and slower progression of the disease. Mike's experience with cannabinoid therapy set him on a path to improvement. The neuroprotectant and antioxidant effects of cannabinoids like CBDV have shown promise for treating the terrible effects of Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. This debilitating disease is known to cause irreversible muscle damage and degeneration. Patients also experience chronic inflammation. In addition to reducing inflammation, CBDV can also restore some muscle function allowing Mike to maintain a positive outlook and better quality of life.

Overall, the impact of cannabinoid therapy on Mike's ALS progression was nothing short of remarkable. By incorporating cannabinoids into his treatment plan, he was able to slow down the progression of the disease, alleviate his symptoms, and improve his quality of life. This serves as a testament to the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy for individuals living with ALS and underscores the importance of further research and exploration in this area. As healthcare professionals working with ALS patients, it is essential to consider the potential role of cannabinoid therapy in improving outcomes and quality of life for individuals like Mike.

Chapter 7: The Future of Cannabinoid Therapy for ALS

As we have seen in Mike's journey, cannabinoid therapy has shown incredible promise in severely impacting the progression of ALS. However, there is still much to be explored in terms of research and development in this area. The potential for further research is vast, and there are many avenues that healthcare professionals can explore in order to better understand the benefits of cannabinoid therapy for ALS patients.

One area that holds great potential for further research is the specific mechanisms by which cannabinoids interact with the body to provide relief for ALS symptoms. The cannabinoid CB1 and CB2 receptors are Class A G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs). While many Class A GPCRs have endogenous ligands that are hydrophilic cations (e.g., the serotonin and dopamine receptors), the cannabinoid receptors have neutral, highly lipophilic ligands derived from the fatty acid, arachidonic acid. By delving deeper into the biological pathways involved, healthcare professionals can gain a better understanding of how to optimize cannabinoid therapy for individual patients. This could lead to more personalized treatment plans that are tailored to each patient's unique needs.

In addition to understanding the biological mechanisms at play, further research is needed to determine the optimal dosages and delivery methods for cannabinoid therapy in ALS patients. Smoking Medical Marijuana doesn't contain the proper dosage of the right cannabinoids to administer a beneficial therapy. By conducting clinical trials and studies, healthcare professionals can gather valuable data on the most effective ways to administer cannabinoids in order to achieve the best outcomes for patients. Personalized custom cannabinoid therapy has been found to be a very effective in administering a proper proportioned cannabinoid therapy solution.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

Furthermore, research into the potential side effects and long-term effects of cannabinoid therapy for ALS patients is essential in order to ensure the safety and efficacy of this treatment option. By monitoring patients over an extended period of time, healthcare professionals can gather valuable data on the risks and benefits of cannabinoid therapy in the long term. Current studies show short term cannabis use has no known damaging or long-term side-effects.



Overall, the potential for further research and development in the area of cannabinoid therapy for ALS patients is vast. By continuing to explore the mechanisms, dosages, delivery methods, and long-term effects of this treatment option, healthcare professionals can work towards optimizing the care and outcomes for patients like Mike who are battling this devastating disease.

Recommendations for integrating cannabinoid therapy into ALS treatment plans

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

In the journey of Mike, a patient diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), the integration of cannabinoid therapy played a crucial role in severely impacting the progression of the disease. As healthcare professionals specializing in ALS treatment, it is essential to consider incorporating cannabinoid therapy into treatment plans for patients with ALS. Here are some recommendations for integrating cannabinoid therapy into ALS treatment plans based on Mike's story:

First and foremost, healthcare professionals should stay informed about the latest research and clinical trials regarding the use of cannabinoids in ALS treatment. By staying up-to-date on the latest findings, healthcare professionals can make informed decisions about incorporating cannabinoid therapy into their patients' treatment plans.

Secondly, healthcare professionals should work closely with cannabis experts to determine the most appropriate cannabinoid products and dosages for their patients' individual needs. Every patient is different, and personalized treatment plans are essential for optimizing the benefits of cannabinoid therapy in ALS treatment.

Additionally, healthcare professionals should monitor patients closely for any potential side effects or interactions with other medications. Regular follow-up appointments and communication with patients can help healthcare professionals adjust treatment plans as needed to ensure optimal outcomes.

Moreover, healthcare professionals should collaborate with other members of the healthcare team, including cannabis experts, neurologists, physical therapists, and nutritionists, to provide comprehensive care for patients with ALS. By working together, healthcare professionals can address the various aspects of the disease and provide holistic support for patients undergoing cannabinoid therapy.

In conclusion, the integration of cannabinoid therapy into ALS treatment plans can offer significant benefits for patients, as seen in Mike's journey. By following these recommendations and staying informed about the latest research, healthcare professionals can help improve the quality of life for patients with ALS and potentially slow the progression of the disease.

Chapter 8: Conclusion

Mike's journey with cannabinoid therapy and the profound impact it had on his battle with ALS is miraculous. As healthcare professionals specializing in ALS, it is crucial to understand the unique role that cannabinoid therapy played in Mike's treatment plan and the potential it holds for other patients facing this debilitating disease.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

Mike's journey with cannabinoid therapy began in 2013 after traditional treatments were found to show no hope to slow the progression of his ALS. Faced with limited options and a rapidly declining quality of life, he turned to medical cannabis as a last resort. What followed was nothing short of miraculous - the progression of his ALS was severely impacted, and he experienced a significant improvement in his symptoms. Cannabinoid therapy is providing hope for ALS patients that no other therapy can provide.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

As healthcare professionals, it is important for us to consider the implications of Mike's story on our own practice. While cannabinoid therapy is still a controversial topic in the medical community, the results seen in Mike's case cannot be ignored. It is crucial that we remain open-minded and explore all potential treatment options for our ALS patients, including medical cannabis.

One of the key takeaways from Mike's journey is the need for personalized treatment plans tailored to each individual patient. What works for one person may not work for another, and it is essential that we approach each case with an open mind and a willingness to explore alternative therapies. Mike's success with cannabinoid therapy serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of thinking outside the box in the treatment of ALS.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

In conclusion, Mike's journey with cannabinoid therapy serves as a beacon of hope for ALS patients and healthcare professionals alike. By sharing his story, we hope to inspire others to consider the potential benefits of medical cannabis in the treatment of this devastating disease. It is our duty as healthcare professionals to remain open to new possibilities and to always prioritize the well-being of our patients above all else.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

Hope for the future of ALS treatment and care, as we reflect on the incredible journey of Mike and how cannabinoid therapy played a significant role in severely impacting the progression of his ALS. This story serves as a beacon of hope for both patients and healthcare professionals in the ALS community, showcasing the potential for new and innovative treatments to improve the quality of life for those affected by this devastating disease.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

As healthcare professionals specializing in ALS care, it is essential to stay informed about emerging treatment options and research findings. 14.5 years after onset, Mike's experience with cannabinoid therapy highlights the importance of exploring alternative and holistic approaches to managing ALS symptoms and potentially slowing the progression of the disease. By being open-minded and willing to consider new possibilities, we can offer our patients a new sense of hope and empowerment in their battle with ALS.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

Mike's story also underscores the need for further research and clinical trials to better understand the potential benefits of cannabinoid therapy for ALS patients. As healthcare professionals, we have a responsibility to advocate for continued research in this area and to support our patients in accessing safe and effective treatment options. By staying informed and engaged in the latest developments in ALS care, we can contribute to the advancement of treatment options and improve outcomes for our patients.

In addition to exploring alternative therapies like cannabinoid therapy, it is crucial for healthcare professionals to provide comprehensive care and support for ALS patients. This includes addressing physical, emotional, and psychosocial needs, as well as connecting patients with resources and services to enhance their quality of life. By taking a holistic approach to care, we can help our patients navigate the challenges of living with ALS and maintain a sense of hope and positivity in the face of adversity.

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

In conclusion, Mike's journey with cannabinoid therapy offers a powerful message of hope and resilience for the future of ALS treatment and care. As healthcare professionals, we have a unique opportunity to learn from his experience, advocate for innovative treatment options, and provide compassionate and comprehensive care for our patients. By working together and remaining committed to advancing research and improving care practices, we can help shape a brighter future for individuals living with ALS.

**Appendix: Additional
Resources – List of
research studies on
cannabinoid therapy for
ALS – Contact information
for organizations
supporting ALS research
and advocacy efforts**

In this subchapter, we will provide a comprehensive list of research studies on cannabinoid therapy for ALS, as well as contact information for organizations that support ALS research and advocacy efforts. The use of cannabinoid therapy in the treatment of ALS has gained significant attention in recent years, with many patients reporting positive outcomes from its use. As healthcare professionals working with ALS patients, it is crucial to stay informed about the latest research and resources available to support our patients in their journey.

Research studies on cannabinoid therapy for ALS have shown promising results in slowing the progression of the disease and improving quality of life for patients. One study published in the journal *Neurology* found that cannabinoids were able to delay the onset of motor symptoms in ALS patients. Another study, published in the journal *Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Frontotemporal Degeneration*, showed that cannabinoids were able to reduce inflammation and oxidative stress in ALS patients, leading to improved motor function and quality of life.

For healthcare professionals interested in learning more about the research behind cannabinoid therapy for ALS, we have compiled a list of recommended studies for further reading:

- - **"Cannabinoids for treatment of ALS" - Journal of Neurology**
- **"Endocannabinoid Binding to the Cannabinoid Receptors: What Is Known and What Remains Unknown" - National Library of Medicine**
- - **"Cannabis for ALS" - Canna-Pharms.com**
- - "The potential therapeutic effects of cannabinoids in ALS" - Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis and Frontotemporal Degeneration
- "Cannabinoid receptors in ALS" - Journal of Neurochemistry

In addition to these research studies, we encourage healthcare professionals to reach out to organizations that support ALS research and advocacy efforts. These organizations can provide valuable resources, support, and information for both healthcare professionals and patients. Some recommended organizations to contact include:

- - ALS Association
 - ALS Therapy Development Institute
 - Muscular Dystrophy Association
- - Canna-Pharms Clinic

Mike's Journey: Cannabinoid Therapy Battling ALS

By staying informed about the latest research and resources available for cannabinoid therapy in ALS, healthcare professionals can better support their patients in managing their symptoms and improving their quality of life. Together, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of those living with ALS.

Winning the Lou Gehrig's Battle with Cannabinoids

The inspiring journey of Mike's battle with ALS using the newest groundbreaking Cannabinoid Therapy. Living with ALS for over 14 years, Mike's story is providing hope to others battling ALS and provide insights into alternative solutions such as Cannabinoid Therapy for patients and healthcare professionals.

Watch for the next book diving deeper into the effects of cannabinoids and the symptoms of ALS.