

Association of Cannabis Use Disorder with Postoperative Complications Following Panniculectomy: A Multicenter Propensity-Matched Analysis

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INTRODUCTION

The Challenge

Cannabis use is increasingly common worldwide, yet its impact on **postoperative outcomes** remains poorly characterized.

Reconstruction & Risk

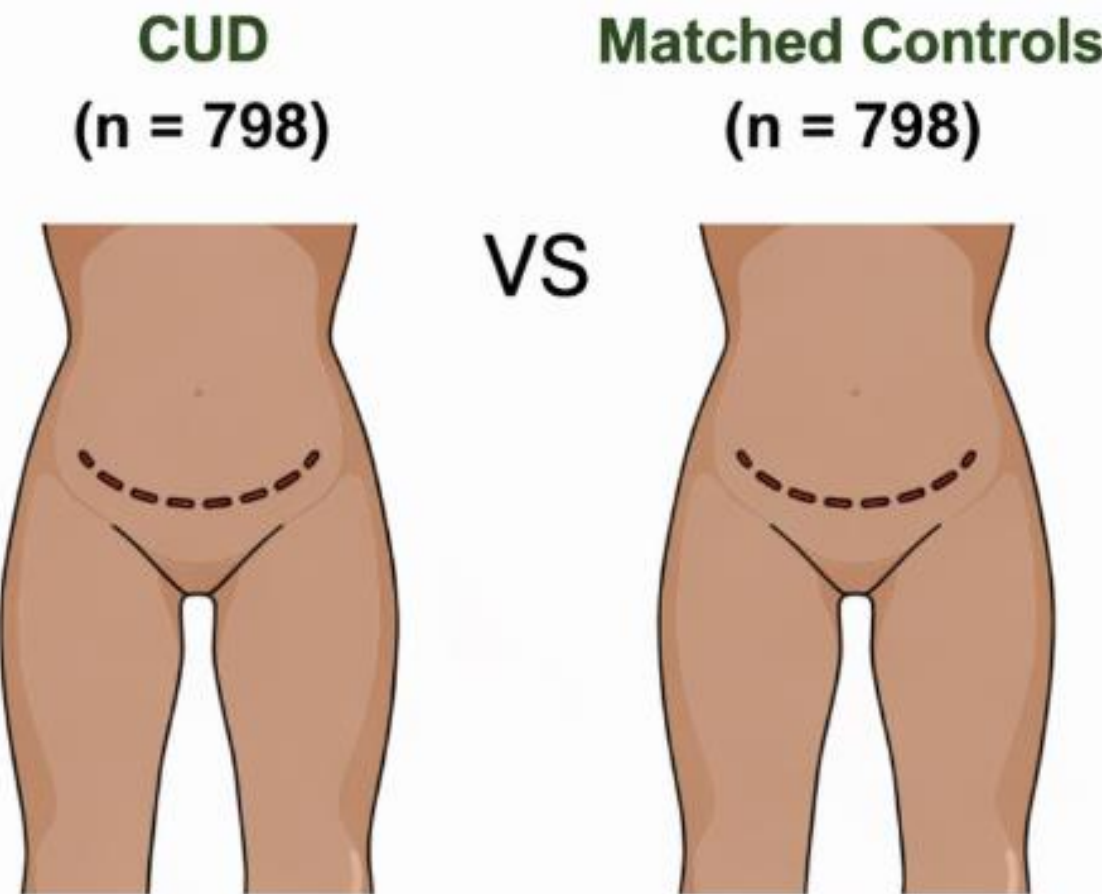
Cannabinoids influence **pain, inflammation, and wound healing**, all critical to surgical recovery. Their role in **postoperative complications** in plastic surgery patients remains unclear.

Research Question: Does cannabis use disorder increase postoperative complications following panniculectomy?

AIMS

- Compare 90-day postoperative complications between:
 - Patients with cannabis use disorder (CUD)
 - Matched controls without CUD

- **Hypothesis:**
 - CUD is associated with higher rates of postoperative pain and skin-related complications



METHODS

- **Design:**
 - Multicenter retrospective cohort (TriNetX)

- **Patients:**
 - Adults (≥18 years)
 - Infraumbilical panniculectomy (2010–2025)

- **Groups:**
 - Documented Cannabis use disorder (CUD) within 6 months preoperatively
 - Matched controls without CUD

- **Matching:**
 - 1:1 propensity score matching
 - Age, sex, BMI, race/ethnicity, comorbidities



798 Cannabis Use Disorder (CUD)



798 Controls



80.3% Females



43.2±12.3 years old

RESULTS

Key Interpretation

Cannabis use disorder (CUD) was associated with **higher observed complication rates**. Increase seen in both **postprocedural pain and skin complications**, with no significant difference in other outcomes.

Clinical Implications

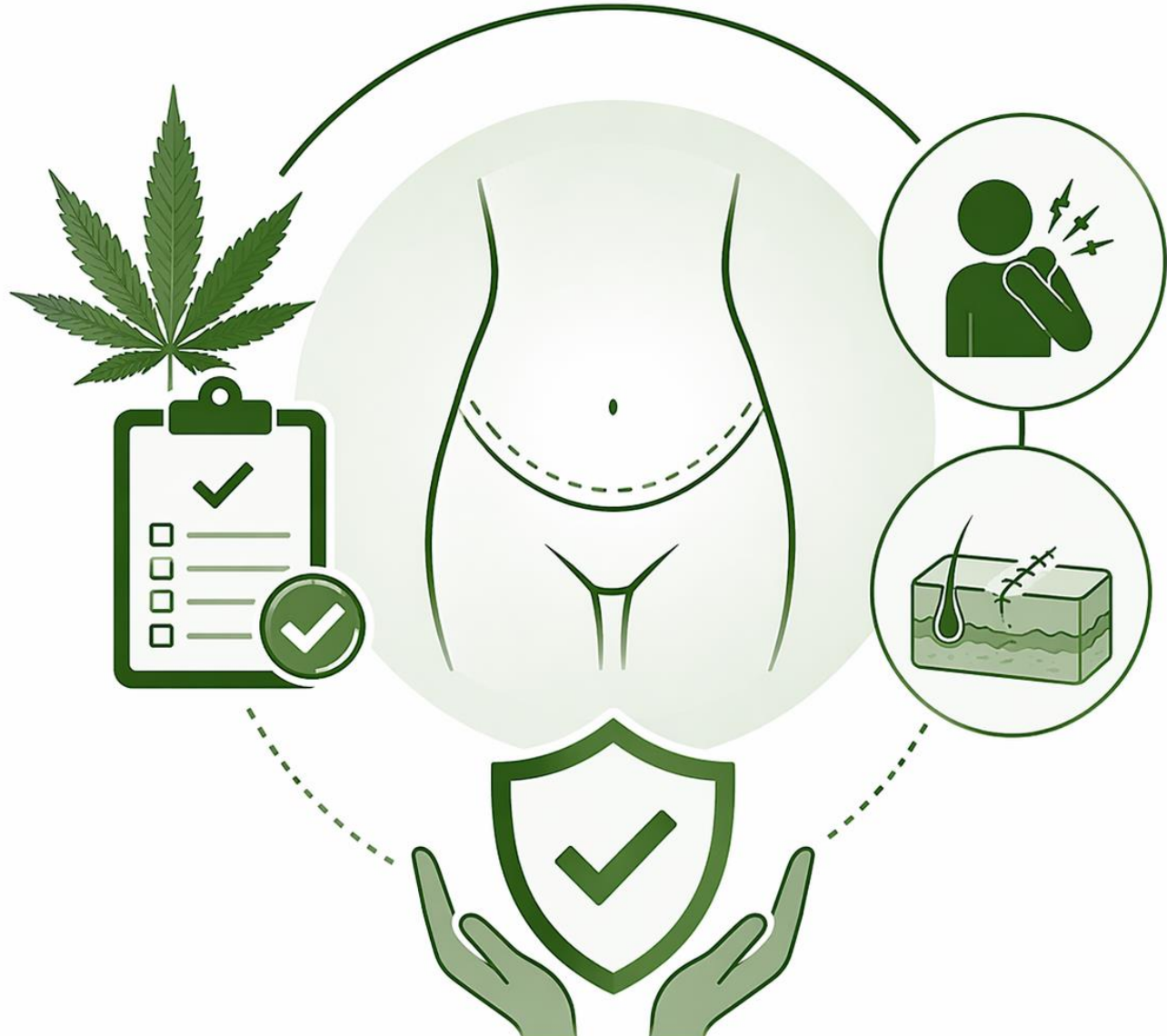
Findings suggest CUD may **increase postoperative morbidity**. Supports incorporation of **cannabis use screening in preoperative assessment**.

Important Consideration

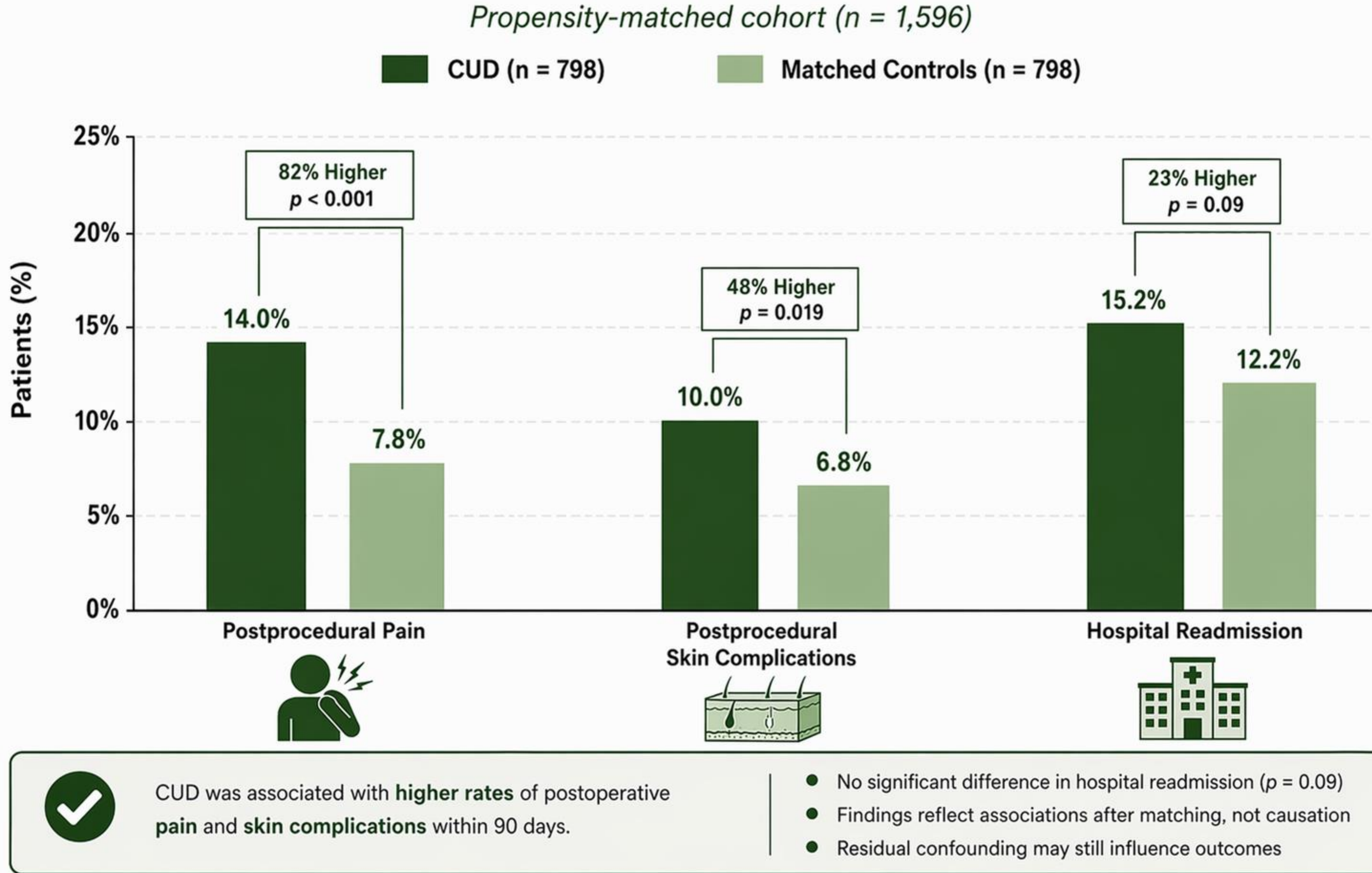
Results reflect **associations after matching**, not direct causation. Residual confounding and coding limitations may still influence outcomes.

CONCLUSIONS

Cannabis use disorder was associated with higher rates of postoperative pain and skin complications, with no significant differences in other outcomes. These findings suggest that CUD may increase postoperative morbidity and support incorporating cannabis use screening into preoperative risk assessment in appropriately selected patients.



90-Day Postoperative Outcomes



INSTITUTIONS

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