

[MUSIC PLAYING]

YASMIN HURD: A huge part of my research is understanding the human brain in regard to heroin addiction. Many people, unfortunately, die from heroin overdose. I study the brains of such individuals. We keep the brains frozen so that we can conduct molecular studies to really get a true insight into the brains of heroin abusers so we can develop new innovative strategies to reverse it.

We saw that CBD actually reduced heroin seeking behaviors. People on the streets think that cannabidiol is marijuana. It is not. CBD is not intoxicating. It is not addictive. So we can provide the world with an opportunity of a medication that actually exists already.

Heroin changes parts of the neural circuits that are important for reward and craving. Cannabidiol actually normalizes a lot of those neural circuits that we see impaired with heroin.