



Sean Kiernan

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**Re: Friendly Advice**

1 message

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**Sean Kiernan** <calbears72@gmail.com>  
To: Ryan Vandrey <rvandrey@jhmi.edu>

Mon, Apr 17, 2017 at 7:10 PM

Ryan,

Thank you. You have said a lot and it is appreciated, with so many points, I am just going to number answers to your questions/points/or further questions. Feel free to answer in your way. I am truly trying to understand what went wrong and what could go wrong in the future. All I care about is getting the science out there.

- 1) I put you on the mailing list for our releases. Today was a letter to Sessions. I am happy to remove you if you wish.
- 2) Can you explain to me what is the pragmatic difference between MAPS study and most other observational studies on cannabis. I believed it to be unique on many fronts but specifically in the fact it was using NIDA cannabis which is required for many of the approvals received and publication was differentiated from many of the studies conducted to include the ones you described below. I could be way off, any color would be appreciated.
- 3) What does Hopkins plan to do with the monies received? Are you giving full or partial monies back, or keeping said monies? Whose decision is this?
- 4) To answer one of your questions, multiple people told me upon Hopkins withdraw, the State of CO was prepared to yank the grant and forced much to be done within a very short amount of time to get the ok to proceed without JHU. Like your view, all I can say is that is their view.
- 5) I was unclear about your involvement in writing the protocol and CO grant writing. So to be clear, you believe your work on the protocol with Marcel was not only essential, that both of you did the work and without such, this study never would have received the grant from the State of CO nor approval necessary by the regulators.
- 6) When you say the previous work was effectively "bad science, can you identify what you mean? I ask because the University of Arizona's IRB and other seemed fine with most of the work done, although I must admit, I am no fan of the the UofA.
- 7) Were your major concerns with those in charge in credibility or protocol?
- 8) Why was no one enrolled at Johns Hopkins. What in your view was the major impediment?

May I state, your communication is appreciated.

STK

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On Sun, Apr 16, 2017 at 7:39 PM, Ryan Vandrey <rvandrey@jhmi.edu> wrote:

Sean,

I can't really point you to anywhere that provides details about the other studies, but I can give you brief descriptions.

Marcel's observational study involves recruiting individuals with PTSD who are and are not using cannabis and following them over time. We are not administering cannabis, but are getting study participants to tell us what they are using and then we get samples of those products and send them for testing to determine cannabinoid content. Anyone who lives in CO and is interested can contact Megan Brunstetter at [megan.brunstetter@va.gov](mailto:megan.brunstetter@va.gov) or 303-399-8020 ext. 4009 for more info.

The Realm of Caring research I am running can be found here: <https://www.theroc.us/orr> Anyone is welcome to participate and we have survey content built specifically for folks with PTSD as an additional component. If you could spread the word, it would help us a lot. These are just internet surveys, but we again follow people over time (survey every 3 months) and ask details about cannabis and other medication use as well as assessments of quality of life, pain, mood, sleep, etc.