

# THE EMERALD CONFERENCE

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## **Accelerating clinical and pre-clinical research opportunities in the cannabis space**

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**Abstract:** I am a longstanding basic scientist and clinical trialist with 20+ years of continual NIH funding. I am also the principal investigator at the Pennington Biomedical site for the LiBBY study, one of the sites in the largest NIH funded clinical trial for THC in the United States. As the result of assisting the leadership of the LiBBY trial secure the THC for the trial I became aware of the need for testing laboratories in the US that support pharmaceutical grade testing. With further investigation it became clear that despite the numerous advances in cannabis research there is a paucity of research infrastructure at both the pre-clinical and clinical level. As part of this presentation I will use my experiences as a longtime basic science researcher, clinical trialist, and recent owner/operator of an ISO17025 accredited testing laboratory to outline some of the current opportunities and obstacles for advancing cannabis based research at the pre-clinical and clinical level. The presentation will provide specific examples that companies and organizations can consider to put in place to launch or expand their own research programs, and outline some of the most promising opportunities for companies and organizations to work together in the advance of pre-clinical and clinical cannabis research.