

FULL TEXT LINKS



Review > [Schmerz](#). 2022 Apr;36(2):128-134. doi: 10.1007/s00482-021-00588-9.

Epub 2021 Sep 17.

[Kratom – a short review for pain medicine]

[Article in German]

[Florian Lautenschlager](#)¹, [Manfred Weiss](#)², [Sigrun Feuerer](#)³, [Norbert Wodarz](#)⁴

Affiliations

PMID: 34533652 PMID: [PMC8447806](#) DOI: [10.1007/s00482-021-00588-9](#)

[Free PMC article](#)

Abstract in English, [German](#)

Background: Consumption of the psychotropic plant kratom (botanical name: *Mitragyna speciosa*) is sometimes used for the self-medication of chronic or acute pain. An increase in the use is possible in Germany in the future.

Objective: This review provides an overview on kratom for pain specialists. The topics of the review are the pharmacological aspects, the mental effects, the effects on pain and the risks of kratom including possible addiction.

Material and methods: We conducted a review of literature in PubMed published until 15 January 2021 resulting in 426 publications of which 8 were specifically concerned with the topic of kratom and pain.

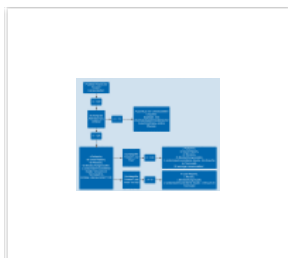
Results: In addition to other alkaloids, kratom also contains 7-hydroxymitragynine, which is active on opioid receptors. The use of kratom is not without risks, e.g. because there is no standardized form of administration as well as the possibility of direct damage to health and of addiction.

Discussion: There are currently no evidence-based reasons to recommend the use of kratom as an analgesic. It is important for pain specialists to ask patients about a possible abuse of kratom and to be able to inform the patients about the potential risks of kratom.

Keywords: Addiction medicine; Pain; Pain specialists; Pharmacology; Risks.

© 2021. Springer Medizin Verlag GmbH, ein Teil von Springer Nature.

Figures



Related information

[MedGen](#)

LinkOut - more resources

Full Text Sources

[Europe PubMed Central](#)

[PubMed Central](#)

[Springer](#)