

Adult Marijuana Use: Cognitive and Neurological Effects (1)—APPROVED STATEMENTS

	Evidence Reviews			APPROVED STATEMENTS
	Colorado Report Review Article, 2014 (p. 119-124; A139-A155)	RAND Report, 2015 (p. 33-38)	Oregon: Washington County Review article, 2014 (p. 28-32)	Oregon Public Health Division Approved Statements
Memory impairments	Substantial evidence that adults who use marijuana heavily are more likely than nonusers to have memory impairments for at least 7 days after last use. ¹		<p>Long-term heavy cannabis users show impairments in memory and attention that endure beyond the period of intoxication and worsen with increasing years of regular cannabis use.²</p> <p>Persistent cannabis use was associated with neuropsychological decline broadly across domains of functioning, even after controlling for years of education.³</p> <p>Heavy cannabis users often demonstrate poorer decision-making and risk-taking, which have been reported alongside functional brain alterations that may</p>	Heavy use of marijuana is associated with impaired memory, persisting a week or more after quitting.

Adult Marijuana Use: Cognitive and Neurological Effects (2)—APPROVED STATEMENTS

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			<p>persist even after 28 days of abstinence.⁴</p> <p>The most enduring and detectable neurocognitive deficits are seen in heavy cannabis users in the realms of decision-making, and concept formation and planning.⁵</p>	
Acute psychotic symptoms	Substantial evidence that THC intoxication can cause acute psychotic symptoms, which are worse at higher doses. ⁶		Large doses of THC produce confusion, amnesia, delusions, hallucinations, anxiety, and agitation.	Use of THC, a component of marijuana, can cause acute psychotic symptoms during intoxication.
Symptoms or diagnosis of depression	Moderate evidence that adults who use marijuana regularly are more likely than non-users to have symptoms or diagnosis of depression. ⁷			Regular use of marijuana is associated with future symptoms or diagnosis of depression.

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Adult Marijuana Use: Cognitive and Neurological Effects (4)—APPROVED STATEMENTS

	Evidence Reviews			APPROVED STATEMENTS
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Symptoms or diagnosis of anxiety	Limited evidence that adults who use marijuana are more likely than non-users to have symptoms or diagnosis of anxiety. ⁸		<p>Anxiety reactions and panic attacks are the symptoms most frequently associated with cannabis use. Frequent cannabis users consistently have a high prevalence of anxiety disorders and patients with anxiety disorders have relatively high rates of cannabis use.</p> <p>About 20-30% of users show brief acute anxiety reactions after smoking the drug.⁹</p>	Regular use of marijuana may be associated with future symptoms or diagnosis of anxiety.

Adult Marijuana Use: Cognitive and Neurological Effects (5)—APPROVED STATEMENTS

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	Colorado Report Review Article, 2014 (p. 119-124; A139-A155)	RAND Report, 2015 (p. 33-38)	Oregon: Washington County Review article, 2014 (p. 28-32)	Oregon Public Health Division Approved Statements
Acute anxiety symptoms		In 2011, marijuana accounted for 38% of ED visits in which illicit drugs were mentioned. ¹⁰ The most common stated reason for these visits is "unexpected reaction" which is usually a transient panic attack brought on by extreme intoxication. ¹¹		
Symptoms or diagnosis of psychosis	Limited evidence that adults who use marijuana are more likely than non-users to have symptoms or diagnosis of psychosis, and increasing likelihood with greater marijuana use. ¹²	..is there a statistical association between marijuana an experiencing psychotic symptoms? Yes, and it has been replicated many times and in many different populations, using many different ways of operationalizing both drug use and mental illness. ¹³	...in a recent retrospective study of substance-induced psychotic disorders, only cannabis and alcohol were implicated as causative agents of psychosis. ¹⁴	Regular use of marijuana may be associated with future symptoms or diagnosis of psychosis.

Adult Marijuana Use: Cognitive and Neurological Effects (6)—APPROVED STATEMENTS

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		...if cannabis use does have a causal impact on psychosis, it appears to be highly contingent on the timing and intensity of cannabis use and possibly on a genetic propensity or other existing personal and environmental risk factors. ¹⁵		
Diagnosis of schizophrenia			Chronic use of marijuana may precipitate schizophrenia in vulnerable individuals. Meta-analytical studies have estimated that 8-14% cases [sic] of schizophrenia may be due to cannabis use. ¹⁶	

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Mental Illness		<p>...in numerous longitudinal studies, the temporal patterns of the association is usually more consistent with the marijuana-use-leads-to-mental-illness model than with a self-medication account.¹⁷</p> <p>...researchers have been unable to rule out the possibility that the association between marijuana use and psychotic symptoms is due to some common risk factor.¹⁸</p>		
Impaired decision making	Limited evidence that adults who use marijuana regularly are more likely than non-users to have impaired decision-making for up to 2 days without use. ¹⁹			

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Impaired executive functioning	Mixed evidence for whether or not adults who use marijuana are more likely than non-users to have impaired executive functioning, after not using for a short time. ²⁰			
Impairment of memory or other cognitive functions	Mixed evidence for whether or not adults who use marijuana heavily are more likely than non-users to have impairment of memory or other cognitive functions for at least 28 days after last use. ²¹			

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