Marijuana Misuse/Abuse and Consequences

Prevalence

Marijuana use is higher in males, and peaks at ages 18-21 years. Use increased as perceived harm of occasional use of marijuana decreased despite increasing THC potency.

Risk Perception

THC potency, and use and perceived harm of marijuana among 12th graders, US, 1991-2015. Use increased as perceived harm of occasional use of marijuana decreased despite increasing THC potency.

Drug-Impaired Driving


Healthcare Utilization


Early Onset and Dependency

Lifetime illicit drug use, by marijuana use, CA, 2012-2013. Marijuana users were more likely to use other illicit drugs in their lifetime, especially teen initiates.

Long-term Outcomes

1 in 9 experimenters, 1 in 6 teen initiates, 1 in 2 daily users become addicted.

Treatment

Rate of admission (per 100,000 pop under 133%FPL) with marijuana as primary drug problem, by age and race/ethnicity, FY15-16. African Americans have the highest rate of entering treatment for marijuana use disorder in all age groups.

For treatment in LAC, call (888)742-7900 during normal business hours, or call 211. For more support, call Marijuana Anonymous at (800)766-6779.

For more information regarding this brief, please contact Tina Kim, Ph.D at kim@ph.lacounty.gov.

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