MARIJUANA & OPIOIDS

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of all addictions start in adolescence and young adult years. 1



There is little evidence

that marijuana reduces pain or the use of opioids. ²



Marijuana use increases the likelihood of opioid dependence. ³

Past-year marijuana users:



more likely to misuse prescription opioids. ⁴



the chance of developing prescription opioid dependence. ⁵



Early use of marijuana

reduces reactivity of the brain's reward center in adulthood causing vulnerability to opioid and other drug addiction. ^{5, 6}



for heightened responses to other drugs. 7



SOURCES:

¹CASAColumbia at Columbia University. (2011). National Study Reveals Teen Substance Use America's #1 Public Health Problem. ²Campbell, G., Hall, W., Peacock, A., & et al. (2018). Effect of cannabis use in people with chronic non-cancer pain prescribed opioids: findings from a 4-year prospective cohort study. The Lancet Public Health. ³Butelman, E., Maremmani, A., Bacciardi, S., & et al. (2018). Non-medical Cannabis Self-Exposure as a Dimensional Predictor of Opioid Dependence Diagnosis: A Propensity Score Matched Analysis. Frontiers in Psychiatry. ⁴NIDA. (2017). Marijuana use is associated with an increased risk of prescription opioid misuse and use disorders. ⁵Pistis, M., & et al. (2004). Adolescent exposure to cannabinoids induces long-Lasting changes in the response to drugs of abuse of rat midbrain dopamine neurons. Biological Psychiatry, 56, 86-94. ⁶Agrawal, A., Neale,M., Prescott, C., & Kendler, K. (2004). A twin study of early cannabis use and subsequent use and abuse/dependence of other illicit drugs. Psychological Medicine, 34(7), 1227-1237. ⁷Panlilio, L. V., Zanettini, C., Barnes, C., Solinas, M., & Goldberg, S. R. (2013). Prior exposure to THC increases the addictive effects of nicotine in rats. Neuropsychopharmacology: official publication of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology, 38(7), 1198-208.