MARIJUANA TRENDS & BEST PRACTICES

California Providers' Best Practices & GPRA Measures Medical Education
May 10, 2016

Funded by the County of San Diego, Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services
WELCOME!

Joe Eberstein – Program Manager of the San Diego County Marijuana Prevention Initiative and the Center for Community Research Inc.
**Problem Statement:** High levels of marijuana use by youth (12-25) in the county negatively affect overall health and contributes to family and community problems.

**Other Initiatives:**
- Binge Underage Drinking
- Meth Initiative
- Prescription Drug
CHANGING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE!

Ballot initiative to legalize recreational use – need to get enough signatures – by June?
PERFECT STORM

- Decrease in perceived risk of harm.
- Favorable policies & attitudes toward marijuana.
- Higher potency products produced and marketed.
- Increase in access to marijuana (delivery, masked products).

The good news ....

- Increasingly available research regarding the effects of marijuana on the adolescent brain.
- Some studies link use to mental health issues and poor academic performance.
Strength of weed seized by federal authorities has steadily risen over time.

Denver retail outlets advertise strains containing 25+% THC*

*THC is tetrahydrocannabinol, the main psychoactive ingredient in marijuana.
CONCENTRATES SUCH AS WAX, BUTANE HASH OIL, EDIBLES

(AVERAGE JOINT CONTAINS 1-3% THC, CONCENTRATES MAY CONTAIN 30 - 90% THC)
The pot/cannabis plant has over 400 chemicals.

Delta 9 THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) is the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's high.

Some chemicals derived from the pot plant may help control seizures and aid with appetite.

(Dronabinol to treat nausea caused by chemotherapy and boost appetite in patients with AIDS wasting syndrome and Nabilone - MS)

You do not need the psychoactive components to get the medical value!!!!!!!
Do not take yourself off of Doctor prescribed medication and supplement with marijuana!

IF YOU NEED MEDICAL ADVICE GO TO YOUR PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN!
Data
16% of 11th graders reported smoking marijuana in the past 30 days in 2015.

All students have seen reductions in past 30-day use since 2011.

Past 30-day use for 7th and 9th graders is at an all-time low.

Source: CHKS, 1999-2015

*In 2013, the response rate for non-traditional students participating in the survey was lower than in previous years, which could be a factor for the decrease in reported past 30-day use rates for that year.
Daily marijuana use is defined as smoking pot 20 or more times in the past 30 days.

Daily marijuana use among 7th, 9th, and 11th graders has been declining since 2011.

Source: CHKS, 1999-2015

*In 2013, the response rate for non-traditional students participating in the survey was lower than in previous years, which could be a factor for the decrease in reported daily use rates for that year.
PAST 30 DAY USE - CALIFORNIA

30 Day Prevalence of Youth Marijuana Use in California

Percent


California Healthy Kids Survey Data compiled by Prevention Research Center at the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation
Past 30 Day Marijuana Use among young adults ages 19-28 at the highest level since 1988.

Daily Marijuana Use among young adults ages (19-28) at the highest since 1986!

Source: Monitoring the Future Survey 2013 volume 2 - College Student and Adult ages 19 – 55
Nearly 20% of 7th graders in San Diego County believe Pot is easy to get.

Over 50% of 9th and 11th graders believe Pot it is “easy” to get.
Perception of Harm
Perceptions of Harm among youth have been decreasing for marijuana, prescription drugs and synthetic drugs!
NATIONAL DATA: PERCEPTION OF HARM

Percentage of 12th Graders Perceiving Marijuana as "Great Risk"

- Regular Use
- Occasional Use
ADDED QUESTIONS TO COUNTY CUSTOM MODULE

- Vaping
- Edibles
- Drugged Driving
- Synthetics
Trends
EVERYONE REACTS DIFFERENTLY TO DRUGS AND ALCOHOL!

- Metabolism - Your Body
- Family History
- Environment
Marijuana is the primary drug of choice for youth ages 12-17 in San Diego County funded drug treatment programs.

- Drug treatment providers observing higher potency and frequent use, based on Creatinine ratio in a drug test.

“8 out of every 10 youth were admitted for marijuana addiction in 2015.”
Marijuana-Related Emergency Department Discharge Data
San Diego County 2006-2014

This fact sheet summarizes data obtained from the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, Emergency Department Discharge Database on County of San Diego Emergency Department visits related to cannabis use over a nine-year time frame (i.e., 2006-2014). Table 1 provides data on discharges in which cannabis use was (1) the primary diagnosis or (2) either the primary or secondary diagnosis upon discharge (i.e., all diagnoses that included coding for cannabis). For most secondary cases, individuals came into the Emergency Department for something else (e.g., broken arm, injury, flu, etc.) and cannabis use was added as a secondary diagnosis. In these cases, the drug use may or may not have contributed to the reason for the Emergency Department visit.

Table 1. Cannabis-related San Diego County Emergency Department Discharges by Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total ER Discharges</th>
<th>Primary Cannabis-related Diagnosis Only</th>
<th>Primary Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by Total ER Discharges</th>
<th>Primary Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by County Population</th>
<th>All Cannabis-related Diagnosis (Primary &amp; Secondary Diagnosis Combined)</th>
<th>Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by Total ER Discharges</th>
<th>Cannabis-related Discharge Rate* by County Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>573,858</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>1,128</td>
<td>193.0</td>
<td>37.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>601,102</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>17.8</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>1,734</td>
<td>288.5</td>
<td>57.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>612,310</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>1,851</td>
<td>302.3</td>
<td>60.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>643,091</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>17.3</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>2,362</td>
<td>367.3</td>
<td>76.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>635,302</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>3,722</td>
<td>585.9</td>
<td>119.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>671,815</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>28.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>640.0</td>
<td>137.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>698,303</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>29.4</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>5,311</td>
<td>760.6</td>
<td>168.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>727,510</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>23.5</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>7,354</td>
<td>1011.4</td>
<td>231.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>781,289</td>
<td>232</td>
<td>29.7</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>10,302</td>
<td>1318.6</td>
<td>320.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Rate per 100,000 people


2 A primary or secondary cannabis-related diagnosis is assigned an ICD-9 code of 304.3 or 305.3 following a positive blood test for the presence of THC or the patient’s self-disclosure of use.
POISON CONTROL 2011-15

Number of Marijuana Human Exposure Cases for San Diego County: 2011-2015*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Counties with Highest Number/Percentage of California Poison Control Center Cases for Marijuana Exposure over a Three-Year Period (2013-2015)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Number of Cases</th>
<th>County Percentage of Total State Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>20.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Bernardino</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alameda</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>975</td>
<td>49.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*2015 data is for January-November
Source: California Poison Control Center, personal communication (March 2015).
The adolescent brain continues to develop well into the mid 20s. The brain continues to be streamlined during this period. (pruning)

THC interferes with the connections being made to different areas of the brain, creating an imbalance in the cannabinoid system.

Attention, working memory, learning.
Many people who smoke marijuana have lung issues including chronic bronchitis. Marijuana smoke contains the same cancer causing carcinogens as cigarettes.

Too much marijuana, has resulted in Cyclical Vomiting Syndrome, severe abdominal pain and vomiting.
Motor vehicle-related fatalities accounted for 291 cases in 2014, up from 247 the previous year, an increase of nearly 18%. Accidental pedestrian deaths made up 88 of those cases. Those 88 cases are up from 64 deaths the previous year.

Almost half of the accidental pedestrian deaths who were tested were under the influence of alcohol and/or illicit drugs – most commonly methamphetamine or THC.

Many of those killed were people running across freeways while it was dark outside.
FOOD PRODUCTS
NO REGULATIONS!
- No quality assurance!
- No potency limits!
- No sanitary requirements!
- No labeling requirements!
- No advertising requirements!
The proliferation of marijuana-infused edibles stunned state and industry leaders, making it one of the biggest surprises during the first year of legal recreational marijuana sales.

Potent cookies, candies and drinks — once considered a niche market — now account for roughly 45 percent of the legal marijuana marketplace.
EXPLOSIONS SAN DIEGO

Butane hash oil lab explosions on the rise locally
Very Dangerous Process!

- Uses butane gas to extract a potent liquid out of the plant.
BUTANE GAS – COLORLESS, ODORLESS, HIGHLY FLAMMABLE
90% 2\textsuperscript{nd} AND 3\textsuperscript{rd} DEGREE BURNS - 2015

Fully Involved Apt/Unit

Victim 90% 2\textsuperscript{nd} & 3\textsuperscript{rd} Burns

BHO Fire Injury
Oil can be whipped into a *budder* and cooked into products like brownies, cookies, etc.

- Sprayed onto generic candies
- Vaped in vape pens
- Made into drops known as tinctures
EDIBLE EFFECTS

- May not feel anything for **30 to 60 minutes** (on a full stomach may take nearly two hours to feel full effects).

- The high can last **4 to 8 hours** while the effects from smoking can wear off in an hour or less.
HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

• The pot infused cookie contained as much THC as six high-quality joints.

• Takes longer to feel the high, people ingest more than recommended

• Severe Hallucinations
Consumed 5 peach tart candies
Each candy containing 10mg of THC.
Started becoming jittery and speaking incoherently.
Shot himself
COLORADO 911 SHOOTING

Suspect shot wife while she was on the phone with 911.

The victim, told dispatchers her husband was so impaired after eating the "Karma Kandy Orange Ginger" that he was crawling through a bedroom window and cutting his legs on broken glass.

Only substance found in Kirk's blood was THC.
Marijuana brownies sicken Crawford High students


SAN DIEGO — Five students got sick at Crawford High School Friday after eating marijuana-laced brownies, a school district official said.

All five were taken to Rady Children’s Hospital for treatment. They were reported to be in stable condition.

The students at the school in the El Cerrito neighborhood reported to staff that they had eaten the brownies, then felt ill, said San Diego Unified School District spokeswoman Linda Zintz.

School staff called for paramedics about 12:30 p.m. and school district police began an investigation.

Zintz said she had no information about where the teens got the brownies and whether they were eaten on or off-campus.

School Principal Richard Lawrence sent recorded voice messages to parents Friday afternoon, saying five students taken to the hospital as a precaution after ingesting marijuana brownies were in stable condition and expected to be released from the hospital in the evening.

“Please take the time to speak to your son or daughter about ingesting food from other people,” Lawrence’s message said. “Students should not take nor eat food from others regardless of how it may appear. Drugs come in different forms and formats and there’s also concerns about unknown allergens. We must be proactive for
San Ysidro High School two 14-year females took three of these lozenges at school: One had elevated heart rate of over 150 beats per minute, constricted pupils, cold sweats. The other girl had a decreased heart rate, extremely low blood pressure and dilated pupils.

Originated from San Diego based online company "Kind Bake"

45% THC
SIDE EFFECTS

- Hallucinations
- Paranoia
- Anxiety
- Panic
- Depression
Most people don't realize when we smoke cannabis, 80% of the cannabinoids are burnt off.

We can absorb into the blood stream, about 20% of the cannabinoids that end up in our lungs.

When eating cannabis, we can absorb most of the THC content.
Benzodiazepines (Depressant) and Marijuana

- **Xanax** (aka alprazolam, bars, footballs), **Klonopin** (aka clonazepam, klonies), **Valium** (aka diazepam, blues), **Ativan** (lorazepam), **Versed** (midazolam).

When mixed with marijuana, the sedative effects of benzodiazepines are increased causing impaired memory, poor concentration and confusion.
Law Enforcement, increasingly responding to calls for people that have taken themselves off of Doctor prescribed mental health medications supplementing with marijuana.

Most psychotropic drugs require a weaning off period.
The overwhelming consensus from mental health professionals is that marijuana is not helpful—and potentially dangerous—for people with mental illness.

Marijuana can directly worsen symptoms of anxiety, depression or schizophrenia through its actions on the brain.

Approximately one-third of people in America with schizophrenia regularly abuse marijuana.
The association between adolescent marijuana abuse and future development of psychosis has become accepted in literature.

- The risk of developing long-term psychosis has been found to increase proportionally with increasing frequency of marijuana use.

- Adolescence have an age related risk of developing long-term hallucinations or schizophrenia from abusing marijuana.

Source: In press “Cannabis and the Adolescent Brain” - Pediatric Annals, March 2014; Dr. Robert J. Hilt, MD, FAAP, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Washington
MPI PREVENTION AND COLLABORATION
2012 - Develop and recruit partners to Key Leadership Team (KLT). Members include individuals and agencies that are representative of San Diego County:

- San Diego County Sheriff’s Department
- San Diego County Office of Education
- San Diego County Probation
- University of California San Diego – Addiction Research
- Friday Night Live
- Californians for Drug-Free Youth (CADFY)
- San Diego Unified School District
- Behavioral Health Advisory Board
- McAlister Institute - Treatment
- Scripps Hospital
Members of the Marijuana Prevention Initiative's Key Leadership team.

Author of multiple media pieces and events.

Developed data utilizing current CHKS surveys to track 9 of the largest school districts, rates of drug use. New custom module addressing emerging trends!

Multiple school presentations with students 6th grade and up, trainings with SRO’s, school staff, mental health workers, nurses and administration regarding emerging drug trends.
Develop media pieces regarding:

- Adolescent health impacts related to marijuana use.
- To inform of the impacts to youth in states that have already legalized. (truancy, school performance, drugged driving, ER visits and mental health issues.)
- Emerging trends include: increased use, paraphernalia and vaping, food/snack products, increased potency, delivery services and other access points including phone “apps” available for easy access.
CHANGING THE MEDIA LANDSCAPE
Provide media pieces in a youth relevant format.

Short media messages with links and visuals. YouTube

More information; less “scare tactics”, how will drug use impede my health, career plans and future.

The effect of marijuana on the environment (drought, electricity, illegal grows).

Drugged driving!
1. Continue reaching out to non-traditional schools and “at risk youth”
   - conduct focus groups, forums, workshops, and recruit at-risk youth to participate in youth group activities.

2. Continue to track dispensaries and proximity to youth-sensitive locations.

3. Engage in information dissemination on dangers through
   - social media, trainings, media events, workshops, and community forums.
Put Drugged Driving “On Your Radar”

DRUGGED DRIVING CAMPAIGN KICK OFF JUNE 11, 2015
More than 40% of high school students attending non-traditional schools have driven or been driven by someone while under the influence of marijuana.

Source: CHKS, San Diego County, 2015
No uniform Nano-gram limit (Alcohol .08)

- Stricter laws to obtain blood samples.

- Perceived risk of impairment from THC is low.

- Prosecutions are low when drugs “only” are involved!

- Metabolism – marijuana can stay in system for 30 to 40 days, does not mean impaired.
PUT DRUGGED DRIVING ON YOUR RADAR!
How Safe are We in San Diego from Drugged Drivers?

A North County driver suffered a broken back when his car was hit. A high-speed chase through San Marcos ended with a man in custody. A woman pleaded guilty to manslaughter after a fatal crash in University City. An 18-year-old faces felony charges after a wreck in Escondido left his passenger with neck injuries. And a DUI checkpoint off State Route 78 had two drugged-driving arrests.

But drugged driving doesn’t always mean headlines and it’s not new. A 2012 roadside drug survey by the Office of Traffic Safety tested the saliva of more than 1,000 nighttime drivers around California. One out of seven drivers tested positive for at least one drug that could cause impairment. Marijuana and alcohol virtually tied for the most positive drug test results.

Is euphoria of recreational pot clouding our common sense?

By Jim Cridler & Jos Mendoza | 4:30 p.m. March 29, 2014

The euphoria surrounding legalizing pot for recreational use is clouding common sense when it comes to driving. Pot remains the drug of choice for teenagers and research shows that youth are extremely vulnerable to marijuana’s ill effects. Young drivers who smoke pot are at particularly high risk for being involved in a vehicle crash, not only due to overall driver inexperience, but also to the increasing availability of pot products with high levels of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol).

In a recent study of 25,000 drivers from six different states including California, drugged driving accounted for more than 18 percent of traffic deaths in 2010, up from more than 16 percent in 1999. Marijuana was the primary drug involved in the increase. It is important to note that five out of the six states surveyed have medical marijuana policies in place.

In a recent National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, youth ages 16 and younger who reported using multiple substances including alcohol, tobacco and marijuana were associated with higher rates of substance use dependence as an adult. Early users of all three substances were more than twice as likely to meet the criteria for marijuana dependence. Past 30-day use of marijuana by teens 12 to 17 is highest in medical-marijuana states, according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration State Estimates from 2009-2010.

In Washington state, drivers testing positive for marijuana increased significantly since legalization took place.
Montecito High students rally against drugged driving

Leadership class cautions public about driving under the influence.

By JESSICA KING 4:19 p.m. March 4, 2016

Montecito High School students join mental health officials in a rally against drugged driving. Jessica King

619.606.3513

Ramona Students Rally Against Drugged Driving

By Greg Bledsoe and Samantha Tatro

Students hold signs at a rally against drugged driving in Ramona on Feb. 27, 2016.

High school students in Ramona hope their extracurricular work could help save
AVAILABILITY OF DRUGS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

- Easy access to many products.
- Apps for Delivery services – GPS locators
- Access to many people!
- Constant posting of activities!
**APPS TO ACCESS WEED**

**Nestdrop**

Nestdrop is a Los Angeles startup that began as an alcohol delivery app and has been in and out of the law’s good graces since it made the jump to medical marijuana delivery last year. After downloading the app, it quickly let me know that the service was not available in Los Angeles, despite delivering to nearby Pasadena. Nestdrop currently functions for weed delivery in Orange County, Oceanside, San Francisco, Stockton, Portland and Seattle. While Nestdrop touts itself as available in Seattle, other Washington-based cannabis industry startups such as Canary and Have have not been able to stay operating legally within the state. I guess you can’t stay legal in a city if your business started there. That is, unless you’re Eaze.

**Eaze**

After a failed attempt at using Nestdrop, I tried ordering through the San Francisco-based app Eaze (which touts Snoop Dogg as one of its investors). Although the app is advertised as being for both iOS and Android, in LA I could only find it in the Google Play store. After quickly getting an account verified via a photograph of my medical marijuana prescription and photo ID, the system let me browse through a selection of flowers (what the legal smoking community calls weed in plant form), prerolls, edibles and concentrates. But when I attempted to order any of their products, Eaze said that none of their drivers were in my area but that I should try again later. I doubted I would have had much luck later though, it’s clear from the app’s map that the drivers are steering clear of LA city proper and only driving in the nearby cities of Santa Monica and Culver City. The fact that any delivery drivers are showing up on the map at all is surprising because according to Eaze’s website, the app is only available in San Francisco and the Bay Area.

**Nugg**

Nugg is the only app that is legally functioning in all of Los Angeles, but it is no longer available for download on iOS or Android, meaning you have to order through its web browser application. Despite not being able to get weed with the press of a single button, Nugg sorts out the closest dispensary and tells you which ones have delivery service, a similar function to that of Yelp, except it’s pot.

**Blaze O’clock**

Speaking of 4:20, in case you didn’t know when to smoke up, one of the most prevalent weed culture apps are those that remind users when it’s 4:20. This includes Blaze O’Clock (or more obviously called, the [420 Wallpaper Changer](#)) which will not only give a quick audible alert, but also converts your phone’s background to one of eight weed-themed wallpapers (two of which feature Snoop Dogg) for 420 seconds. I’m not quite sure what happens on iOS but on my Android device there is also a little cannabis leaf that appears in the upper left-hand corner where my roaming and data error symbols might show up.
150 designated locations for dispensaries in Un-incorporated San Diego County. **Temporary moratorium on new storefronts. March - 2016**

- County Collective/Dispensary Ordinance prohibits the sale of edible products. Can sell dry ingredients!

- The City of San Diego allows (4) dispensaries per (9) council districts.

- All other San Diego cities have bans!

In 2014-15, 582 medical cards were issued countywide.
DRUG TRANSACTIONS TODAY!
Youth in possession of grinders.

- Herb is ground up into small consistent pieces, which maximizes surface area.

- Provides an even burning/vaporizing

- No annoying aspect from sticky fingers when breaking up buds by hand, those sticky fingers are soaking up trichomes and hurting potency.
DABBING PARAPHERNALIA

Paper clips, dental tools, small screw drivers and pens with residue on tip.
VAPING/E-CIGS
In January 2012, the number of children poisoned by e-liquid was 14. By April 2015, that number had risen to 223. Almost 50 percent of the kids were less than two-years-old.

According to the study, about 14 percent of calls were about exposure to e-cigarettes, in about 92 percent of the e-cig cases, the kids swallowed liquid nicotine.

Source: National Poison Data System 2016 about nicotine and tobacco products from January 2012 to April 2015.

"LIQUID NICOTINE CAN CAUSE SERIOUS POISONING, AND EVEN DEATH, AMONG YOUNG CHILDREN,"
E-CIGS, VAPE PENS

- Small and easy to hide
- Easy to purchase online
- No odor!
- Vape a variety of drugs.
- No easy way to test what is in them.
Among high school students who had used marijuana at least once in their lifetime, 23% reported using e-cigarettes to vaporize dried cannabis leaves; 15% reported using e-cigarettes to vaporize hash oil; and, 10% reported using e-cigarettes to vaporize “wax” (a high-potency marijuana product).

Source: Morean, et al., 2015
VAPING VARIOUS FORMS OF POT

- Dry Herb Vape
- Hash Oil & Wax Vape
- Wax Vape - Dabbing
Vaper Severely Injured When His E-Cigarette Blows Up In His Face, Creating A New Hole In His Mouth

BY BRANDON WENERD - 09.10.15

For not vaping is safer than smoking. We’ve posted like four articles about BroBible (here, here, here, and here). It’s a contentious subject with pros and cons, but the consensus is that both have their inherent risks that all users should be aware of.

For vaping, a recent incident is an awful one, however. According to Fox 5 DC, he was smoking a vape device exploded in his face.

Cordero Caples, 29, was in critical condition in a Colorado Springs hospital after an electronic cigarette exploded in his face.

The victim, who is a father of a 1-year-old girl, was almost paralyzed for life from the explosive-cigarette. He came out of the spinal reconstruction surgery in stable condition, Porter said. She said he was suffering immense pain prior to the surgery, and was relieved, but still aching from the incident. He told her he didn’t know that the vaping devices could become dangerous handheld bombs.
Man catches fire after e-cigarette explodes in his pocket at petrol station - video

A 16-Year-Old Teen Suffered Second Degree Burns When an E-Cigarette Exploded in His Face

E-cigarettes are all the rage these days, as the grim fates of chain smokers make traditional drags increasingly unpopular. But as researchers continue to look into whether the e-cigarette presents the same risks as its predecessor, it would seem there’s another horrifying hazard e-cigs pose that cigarettes never did: explosions.

Such was the fate of 16-year-old Ty Greer, a teen in Alberta, Canada, who suffered second degree burns and broken teeth after his e-cigarette spontaneously exploded just inches from his mouth while he was using it in his car.

“[It lit] my kid’s face on fire, busted two teeth out,” Perry Greer, Ty’s father, told the Canadian Press. “It burned the back of his throat, burned his tongue very badly. If he wasn’t wearing glasses, he possibly could have lost his eyes. … He wanted to die. That is how much pain he was in.”

A man has suffered second-degree burns after his faulty e-cigarette set his trousers on fire at a petrol station in the US state of Kentucky. CCTV footage from the Quality Quick Convenient store in the town of Owensboro shows the man standing near the counter when sparks start shooting out of his trousers.
N.Y. teen hospitalized after his e-cigarette explodes

USA TODAY NETWORK  Jon Hand, Rochester (N.Y.) Democrat and Chronicle  9:30 p.m. EDT May 4, 2016

OGDEN, N.Y. — A 17-year-old was hospitalized Tuesday night when the e-cigarette he was putting on exploded, burning his face, throat and hand cutting them with shards of metal.

Ryan Schioldan of Ogden has a hole in the back of his throat, deep cuts on his hands and burns on his upper lip thanks to an unlikely culprit: an exploding electronic cigarette. (May 4, 2016) Video by Max Schulte.

An image provided by Shernoff Bidart Echevarria Bentley LLP shows Vicente Garza’s injuries after an electronic cigarette exploded near his face. (Shernoff Bidart Echevarria Bentley LLP)

E-cigarette explosions prompt three lawsuits in California

Vicente Garza
October 16, 2015

- Severe injuries to his mouth, tongue, and left index finger
- 7 day hospitalization
- Two surgeries on his tongue
- Two surgeries on his left index finger, including amputation at the knuckle
- Ongoing treatment at the Grossman Burn Center
The rules will bring the industry under federal oversight for the first time.

Hundreds of e-cigarette brands will have to undergo a lengthy federal review to stay on the market.

Limit e-cigarette sales to minors and require new health warnings.

“In a shift vigorously opposed by the industry, manufacturers must seek federal permission to continue marketing all e-cigarettes launched since 2007, making up the vast majority of the market”.

FDA ACTION COMING!
Vaping devices can be used for many drugs and may look like familiar products.
SPICE
EMS reporting 2-3 poisonings a day!

- Possibly new “Spice” compound with unknown health effects.

- Between March 2015 and February 2016 - 400 percent increase in Emergency Medical System (EMS) incidents involving Spice.

- Taxed EMS system and resources expenditures of $2.4 million.

- Increase production and accessibility of New Psychoactive Substances (NPS).
WHAT IS SPICE?

- A chemical sprayed on plant material.
The chemicals affect brain receptors differently than THC.

Some synthetic cannabinoids are 100X stronger than THC.

Synthetic cannabinoids are produced as an oil or a crystalline powder that can easily be sprayed on plant material.
1. **Spice is “not” pot, it is a chemical sprayed on a fuel source (plant material, paper) that may resemble marijuana herb.**

2. **Spice is “not” plant-based; there are no naturally occurring spice plants or spice chemicals found on earth. Many Spice chemicals are produced in labs and smuggled in from countries like China.**

3. **Spice has “no” other use other than to get people high. There are no benefits to using Spice, not even accidental ones.**

4. **Spice is “not” without risk. Many first time users of Spice have ended up in emergency rooms with severe hallucinations, excited delirium, paranoia, heart attack, seizures, vomiting, kidney failure and death.**
Vaping Spice & K2: More Dangerous Than Smoking?

Posted on May 17 by Spice Addiction Support

The Rise of Liquid Synthetic Marijuana: New Brands, New Risks

The popularity of vaping synthetic drugs — inhaling them in a vapor form, rather than smoking — is increasing in the US and UK.

Vaping is accomplished using an e-cigarette or “vape pen”, an electronic device that atomizes liquids and makes the vapor available for inhaling. Users load a liquid solution containing their drug of choice into the device, turn it on, and inhale.
LEGALIZATION
UPDATES
The Legalization of Marijuana in Colorado: The Impact

January 2016

Washington State Marijuana Impact Report
Northwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area

Latest Results for Colorado
YOUTH USE IN COLORADO
RMHIDTA - 2016

The latest 2013/2014 results show Colorado youth ranked #1 in the nation for past month marijuana use, up from #4 in 2011/2012.
In 2014, the first year in which marijuana retailers began selling recreational pot, calls to the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Center for marijuana exposure increased over 70% from 2013 and nearly 150% from 2012 (RMHIDTA, 2015). Additionally, 45 of the 151 calls received in 2014 involved children ages eight or younger (Johnson, 2015).

BHO extraction lab explosions increased 167% from 12 in 2013 to 32 in 2014. In addition, injuries related to THC extraction lab explosions increased 67% from 18 in 2013 to 30 in 2014 (RMHIDTA, 2015).
Data shows that the diversion of Washington State marijuana is ongoing, that the rate of treatment admissions has been constant for marijuana disorders and that driving under the influence of marijuana has contributed to an increase in traffic crash fatalities. The Memo also states that mandatory protections need to be in place precluding youth access to marijuana. Data shows that not only do youth have access to multiple sources, but that they have remained consistent, if not more prevalent since legalization. Youth continue to experience a range of consequences resulting from marijuana use, and rates of abuse appear to be increasing. Youth and adults also continue to drive while high and to engage in serious crimes.

Data shows that the perception of harm is low for all age groups surveyed and that Poison Center calls have dramatically increased since legalization. The THC concentration levels in Washington State marijuana continue to increase in order to satisfy the demand of consumers. Federal laws are being violated as Washington State marijuana is sent through the postal service and THC extraction labs are injuring innocent victims.
Calls to the Washington Poison Center for marijuana exposures increased 56% from 158 calls in 2013 to 246 in 2014; 48 of the 246 calls in 2014 involved children ages 12 or under (Johnson, 2015).
Stoned Drivers Are Killing More and More Innocent Victims

By Cully Stimson | May 12, 2016 | 4:00 PM EDT

Blake Gaston, 23, killed while riding his motorcycle in Seattle. He played the piano, guitar, drums, wrote music, and developed websites.

Elizabeth Kemble, 46, was killed by a car while walking across the street in Portland, Ore. She previously survived three kidney transplants, and dedicated her life to helping dialysis patients and hungry seniors.

Debra Majkut, 34, mother of two, killed while sitting on her couch with three children when a car smashed into her house.

And the list goes on and on.

Each person was killed by a person high on marijuana. And it is only going to get worse, given the trend towards increased legalization and liberalization of marijuana laws in the United States.

According to the Washington State Marijuana Impact Report, the incidents of marijuana-impaired driving are increasing dramatically. Fatal driving accidents have risen 122 percent between 2010 and 2014, according to the Washington State Traffic Safety Commission. Marijuana is big business in Washington state. There are more marijuana businesses than Starbucks in Washington state (despite the fact that Starbucks was founded in Seattle).

The traffic safety organization AAA has its own reports on marijuana use among drivers in fatal crashes, and the picture is equally bleak.

And don’t be fooled—the pot pushers are targeting youth with marijuana. Vendors sell edibles that look just like other candies routinely eaten by kids. According to the impact report, 98 percent of student drug violations in Seattle Public Schools between September 2013 and May of 2014 were due...
90% of public safety violations against recreational licensees deal with minors
The average potency of marijuana flower for one Seattle-based retailer during the month of July 2015 was 21.24% - for marijuana concentrates the average potency was 72.76%.

In 2014, there were seventeen reported THC extraction lab explosions across the state. Ten were located on the western side of the state with the remaining on the eastern side. Descriptions of some explosions follow:
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTION

- Start prevention in elementary school.
- Use local data sources (CHKS) to track drug trends.
- Include Drugged driving information in driver education classes - Start Smart classes.
- Statewide - Develop strict standards/limits for edibles.
- No vape devices for youth and should be tested for adult use!
- Drug prevention should be conducted throughout the year.
- Parent involvement in drug prevention efforts.
- Conduct frequent trainings for staff and administration on emerging drugs.
- Encourage medical providers to inquire about drug and alcohol use during routine medical check ups/visits.
- Put synthetic drugs/Spice on the radar – drug testing!
Multiple resources, info cards, data, PowerPoints available for download.

Half day trainings available marijuana, RX and synthetics.
QUESTIONS?