

Cannabody

The graphic below illustrates some of the effects that recreational cannabis use has on the human body. Many are present only during the 'high', while others (marked with **△**) continue to persist either permanently or until a sufficient period of abstinence has been observed. The main ingredient in cannabis that causes the high, and many of these side effects, is THC (or tetrahydrocannabinol). Like the amount of alcohol in alcoholic beverages, cannabis can have varying levels of THC. With liberalisation, there is a risk that users consume stronger forms of the drug, which could exacerbate the negative effects.



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5. Thomson, WM et al, 2008, “Cannabis Smoking and Periodontal Disease Among Young Adults”, JAMA
6. Patton, GC, 2002, “Cannabis use and mental health in young people: cohort study”