

QUIZ: WHAT'S YOUR MARIJUANA IQ?

MARIJUANA HAS SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM HEALTH RISKS.



Q Out of every 10 people who use marijuana, how many will become addicted?

A: Thought marijuana wasn't addictive? Surprise! Research says that about 1 in 10 people who use marijuana may develop some degree of use disorder — and that number rises to 1 in 6 when use begins before age 18.



Q Can marijuana erase I.Q. points?

A: Yes. Marijuana use that starts in adolescence can lower your IQ score and permanently erase up to eight IQ points — even if you stop using.



Q The concentration of THC in marijuana has tripled in the last few decades. What does THC stand for?

A: It doesn't stand, it falls down a lot (hahahaha). Just kidding. THC is the chemical tetrahydrocannabinol. Newer strains of marijuana have more than tripled the concentration of THC compared to strains from 25 years ago which may lead to higher rates of addiction.



Q What problems can marijuana cause during pregnancy?

A: Using marijuana can affect babies' development and growth in many ways. Marijuana use during pregnancy is linked to lower birth weight, preterm birth, and even stillbirth. It can also increase the risk of brain and behavioral problems. So, baby your baby. Don't use marijuana. [Here's a video and website that explains more.](#)



Q What about after birth? If a new mom uses marijuana, can it affect her newborn?

A: Even small amounts of THC can wind up in breast milk and affect a baby's development. Families, you're not off the hook either. Studies are looking at how secondhand smoke from marijuana can affect babies and other vulnerable people!

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Q Edibles are a safe way to use marijuana, right?

A: Sorry. Edibles (from brownies to gummy bears to lollipops) are popular, but you can't be sure about the potency of the THC in the product. They also take longer to digest and produce a high, so people might consume more and have a harmful reaction.



Q What about driving under the influence of marijuana?

A: That's a no-no. People who use marijuana and get behind the wheel can experience dangerous effects that can impair judgement and cause accidents — such as slower reactions, lane weaving, and decreased coordination.



Q My state has okayed marijuana in certain forms. Does that mean it's legal?

A: Nope. Even though some states are legalizing marijuana, it's only under certain conditions — which can vary from state to state. And marijuana is still illegal at the federal level.



Q How can marijuana affect my education and career?

A. Maybe you're starting to sense a pattern here. Research shows that marijuana use can lead to worse education outcomes, lower career achievement, and reduced life satisfaction. Not to mention the simple ability to get off the couch.



Q Marijuana is a natural herb, so how can it have health risks?

A: C'mon, you know "natural" doesn't necessarily mean safe. (Think poison ivy!) Marijuana has short-term and long-term health risks. So learn the risks before you burn, eat, or use.

**Marijuana use comes with real risks.
Learn more at [SAMHSA.gov/marijuana](https://www.samhsa.gov/marijuana).**