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Marijuana is addictive.

- Heavy, long-term users of marijuana can develop a physical dependence on the drug, and cessation can result in withdrawal symptoms. In addition, marijuana is physiologically addictive. –Caron Foundation
- Children and teens are three times likelier to be in treatment for marijuana than for alcohol, and six times likelier to be in treatment for marijuana than for all other illegal drugs combined. –CASA
- The National Institutes of Health found that the earlier marijuana use is initiated, the higher the risk for drug abuse and dependence. Those who begin using the drug in their teens have approximately a one-in-six chance of developing marijuana dependence. –NIH
- The proportion of children and teenagers in treatment for marijuana dependence and abuse jumped 142 percent since 1992. – CASA
- About six times as many teens have tried marijuana as have tried Ecstasy or cocaine. –CASA
- Among youths aged 12 to 17 who have ever tried marijuana, the mean age of initiation is 13 and a half. The mean age of initiation among adults aged 18 to 25 who have ever tried marijuana is 16. –CASA
- Residents of states with “medical” marijuana have marijuana abuse/dependence rates almost twice as high than states without such laws. - Wall, M. et al, (2011).
- Addiction rates among 12-17 year olds are among the highest levels nationally in states that have “medical” marijuana programs. –SAMHSA NSDUH Report
- Proponents of legalization often compare marijuana use to prescription drugs, alcohol and tobacco, all of which are regulated. Our nation’s experience with even tightly regulated prescription drugs, such as *Oxycontin*, show that increased availability leads to increased misuse, abuse and addiction, even when controls are in place. - University of Michigan, 2011 Monitoring the Future Study