

# Secondhand Cannabis-Use

<p>What is secondhand cannabis exposure? What is third-hand?</p>	<p>Secondhand cannabis exposure occurs when a <b>person inhales side stream smoke or aerosol</b> from a device that someone else is using. Third hand exposure occurs when a person inhales chemicals from cannabis that have settled on floors, furniture, carpet, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both second and third hand exposure can result in measurable levels of THC.</li> <li>• In general, levels from second and third hand exposure are much lower than from primary exposure, but these levels can be significant in young children because of their small body mass.</li> <li>• Some adolescents will intentionally expose themselves to secondhand smoke in small, poorly ventilated spaces (sometimes called “hot boxing”).</li> <li>• In these cases, THC levels can be high enough to cause impairment. There is no significant difference between hot boxing and primary cannabis use.</li> </ul>
<p>What are the health effects of secondhand exposure to cannabis?</p>	<p>Chemicals from second and third hand cannabis are the same as those in primary exposure and are associated with the same physiological risks and impacts, including respiratory irritation and neurological effects.</p> <p>THC is a component of second and third hand cannabis exposure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measurable levels of THC have been found in children whose parents use THC. THC interferes with brain development, and can cause problems with learning and motivation.</li> <li>• THC exposure is also associated with heightened risk of psychotic symptoms and psychotic disorders.</li> </ul>
<p>Prenatal Exposure in Pregnant Mothers</p>	<p>There are <b>limited studies</b> examining prenatal drug exposure.</p>
<p>There is much we don't know about secondhand exposure to cannabis.</p>	<p><b>There is little research on the impact of second and third hand cannabis exposure in humans.</b></p> <p>However, based on what we know about secondhand tobacco smoke and the similarities between tobacco and cannabis, it is reasonable to raise concern over the effects that cannabis exposure has on children and adolescents.</p>
<p>Child-Safe Storage of Cannabis</p>	<p><b>Avoid accidental exposure to cannabis products.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Store cannabis where children and pets cannot get to it, such as in a high cabinet.</li> <li>• Use childproof storage systems for all products that contain THC.</li> <li>• Avoid products that come in brightly colored or otherwise child-friendly packages. Keep edibles separate from other foods and inaccessible to children and teens. Make sure cannabis-containing products are clearly marked.</li> </ul>

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