

Adolescent Drug Terminology

2023-2024 Edition

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Carts (AKA Tanks)



Vaping carts or cartridges have become a popular way to use cannabis, nicotine and CBD. They are usually sold pre-filled with concentrates that attach to a base (battery). The base heats the concentrate when activated to create a cannabis and nicotine aerosol that is then inhaled. Typically the cannabis concentrate is much stronger than cannabis flower. Disposable nicotine carts (nic carts) are known as 1.5's, 2's, and 2.5's. (2K=2000 hits) A sign of problematic use could be when someone is using a cart.

Vape (Dab) Pens



Usually refers to a cannabis vaping device similar to carts. Often these pens are smaller than carts, disposable, and activated by inhaling instead of pushing a button. Technically, vape pens contain cannabis liquid while dab pens use stronger concentrated cannabis wax, but the two are often referred to interchangeably.

Kratom



Kratom is a tropical tree native to Southeast Asia. It can be taken as a tablet, capsule, or extract. It can even be ingested as a tea. In low doses it can provide alertness, or physical energy but with regular consumption and at higher doses it can cause addiction and acts more as a sedative. It is listed as a Drug and Chemical of Concern by the DEA. It can cause psychosis, hallucinations, delusions and confusion.

Synthetic Cannabinoids: delta-8 and delta-9



Delta-8 THC and delta-9 THC come from the cannabis sativa plant and are usually manufactured in a lab in unsanitary conditions with other potentially harmful chemicals. It is often found in preloaded vape cartridges, gummies, soft gels, cookies, and other edibles. It is legal and readily available, as it is only banned in some states. Exposure to delta-8 and delta-9 has led to ICU visits and hospitalizations.

(Continued on reverse)



Edibles

Route of administration is important when considering substance use. The faster the route to cross the blood brain barrier, the quicker the high. The route of administration is slower when using edibles and this delayed effect can lead to cannabis overdose. Some symptoms of cannabis overdose are extreme anxiety, panic attack, hallucinations, and fast heart rate. Using THC via inhalation creates a euphoric effect seconds after use, whereas edibles can take 30-60 minutes and full effect will occur in 3-4 hours. Edibles come in forms of candy, baked goods, butter, and even drinks. Edibles often contain a large dose of THC, so anyone who eats more than the recommended serving can have an overdose. In one cookie, there can be six servings. It can be especially dangerous for small children, who may mistake a THC edible for regular candy and consume a large amount, causing a THC overdose. There has been a rise in accidental THC poisoning of children in states that have legalized cannabis for recreational use.



CBD

Abbreviation for Cannabidiol (one of the active ingredients in the cannabis plant). CBD is not psychoactive (mind-altering) in its pure form and is used in an FDA approved medication to reduce seizures in children with rare forms of epilepsy. However, CBD oils sold in stores and online are not regulated or tested. They often contain inconsistent amounts of CBD or have other ingredients like tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychoactive ingredient in cannabis. This has led to cases of acute poisoning, seizures, hallucinations, loss of consciousness, nausea, and vomiting.



Bars (AKA ladders)

Bars is another name for rectangular shaped Xanax (an anti-anxiety medication) pills with three lines in them (typically 2 mg per 'bar'). This drug is increasing in abuse among youth. If a teen says someone was "barred out," it means that they were highly sedated due to Xanax consumption.



Dabs (AKA wax)

A term used to describe highly concentrated butane hash oil (BHO). The term dab was coined because a small "dab" of the substance is heated on a rig and inhaled. It is created in a process where high quality cannabis is blasted with butane and extracted. Dabs typically contain 70-90% THC compared to 5-15% THC in regular cannabis.



Fentanyl

A potent synthetic opioid that is 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin. It is often times mixed with other drugs including heroin, cocaine, MDMA but also THC carts or edibles. Fentanyl has been a major contributor to fatal and non fatal overdoses in the US.

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