Psychiatric Conditions and Cannabis Use

Pre-legalization trends in cannabis-related hospitalizations in Canada, 2006–2015

Cannabis use related hospitalizations for mental and behavioral disorders more than doubled

Cannabis related psychotic disorder tripled

Hospitalization among individuals aged 15–24 increased 19 times

- Two-thirds of those hospitalized were male
- About half were aged 15–24

Using cannabis increases the risk of developing psychosis and schizophrenia, even if there is no family history of these disorders.

Ways to Reduce Risk While Using Cannabis

From the Lower-Risk Cannabis Use Guidelines

- Avoid synthetic cannabis products
- Use products with less than 100 mg/g THC
- Reduce the amount and how often it is used
- Wait as long as possible before starting to use

Many factors influence substance use, including brain development and experiences of trauma. If you find it difficult to follow these tips, there are community-based mental health supports available to you.

Stay informed at ccsa.ca/cannabis

© Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction 2020

This infographic summarizes the original quantitative research article, Psychotic disorder and cannabis use: Canadian hospitalization trends, 2006–2015. A related report in short is also available.