

# CANNABIS USE DISORDER IN PREGNANCY

## FETAL SEQUELAE OF CANNABIS

- ↑ Stillbirth
- ↑ Low birth weight
- ↑ Preterm birth

### Long term neuro sequelae:

- ↑ ADHD & learning disorders
- Reduced memory function
- Lifetime ↑ risk of SUD

## USED TO TREAT ANXIETY

**Equivocal.** Use is highly correlated with anxiety but frequently used to self-treat. THC seems to be anxiogenic but CBD may be anxiolytic. Subjects report comparable to SSRI but not interchangeable.

## USED TO TREAT NAUSEA

**Effective but...** 92% of surveyed women report cannabis as "effective" or treatment for NV of Pregnancy. RCTs however showed more side effects than conventional tx including sedation (30%) and paranoia (5%).

## MOST COMMON SUBSTANCE



Emerging data: **+7%**  
PREGNANCIES

- Syndromic?
- Confounds?
- Stigma?

**70% of surveyed women perceive no risk of cannabis use in pregnancy**

## UP IN SMOKE?

### Carbon monoxide = placentotoxic

- Harm = Smoking > vaping > edibles?
- 1 study re: routes of cannabis use showed 0% consumed only edibles
- THC capsules = inhaled THC for nausea

### Cannabis use in pregnancy & SES

- High school education or less = 6x ↑ use
- Correlated with poverty = confounder

## Breastfeeding and Cannabis

THC concentrates in breastmilk with a half-life of >36 hours. This precludes timed-use like can be employed with EtOH during breastfeeding. Infants show:



- Decreased suckling
- Poor latch
- Reduced weight gain
- Delayed motor develop't
- Failure to thrive

## MATERNAL COMPLICATIONS OF CUD:

- Infertility, anovulation
  - ↓ Sperm motility, function
- **Cannabinoid Hyperemesis**
  - ↑ Hospitalization
- **Respiratory diseases of smoking**
- **INTERESTINGLY:**
  - ↓ Preeclampsia
  - ↓ Gestational diabetes
  - ↓ Caesarean section

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