

# Cannabis Impairment Quick Assessment

Document Observations of MENTAL & PHYSICAL Impairment

## EYES

**Conjunctiva Tissue** (looks like pink eye in both eyes), **Lack of Convergence**, Dilated **Pupils**, **No HGN** (when cannabis alone).

## MUSCLES

**Tremors** Observed in extremities, upper torso, & eyelids (closed eyes).

## ODOR

**Smell** Burnt marijuana, additive flavor for vaping, & maybe for edibles.

**Indica:** Produces a 'stoned' feeling. Physically and mentally relaxing. Centered on the body. Enhances sensations of taste, touch, & sound.

**Sativa:** Produces the 'high' feeling (energetic). Less overpowering than the Indica 'stone.' Less likely to produce drowsiness. High described as: cerebral, energetic, creative, giggly & or psychedelic.

**Psycho-Physical Tests:** Generally slow performance; muscle tremors, especially in legs & arms.

**Information processing:** Likely diminished. May forget certain parts of instructions. Likened to attention deficit disorder, cognitive impairment.

**Modified Romberg:** Distorted internal clock. Eyelid Tremors.

**Impairment Peak:** 0-30 mins

**High Experience:** 2-3 hours

Impairment may last up to 24 hours, without awareness effects.

ONSET OF EFFECTS DIFFERS DEPENDING ON MANNER OF INGESTION

**Delta-9-THC** - The main psychoactive substance found in marijuana.

**11-Hydroxy-THC** - The main psychoactive metabolite of THC formed in the body after consumption.

**11-nor-9- Carboxy- HC** - The main secondary metabolite of THC formed after consumption. Not active, but indicates historical use.

**Cannabinoids** - Group of active compounds found in marijuana.

**Cannabidiol (CBD)** - Non-psychoactive (a/k/a not impairing) cannabinoid.

**Cannabinol (CBN)** - THC metabolite (10% as psychoactive as THC).

**Measurement of Uncertainty** - Best estimate of how far a quantity might be from “true value.”

**CO Permissible Inference 5 ng/mL** - If at time of driving, driver had 5 ng/mL delta-9 in whole blood, jury may infer defendant was DUI. CO does not have a per se law (statutory assignment of a blood concentration above which is an offense to drive)!

**Titrate** - Continuously measure & adjust the balance of [a substance].

### INTERNET RESOURCES

[www.wsp.wa.gov/breathtest/dredocs.php](http://www.wsp.wa.gov/breathtest/dredocs.php) (NHTSA/IACP Manuals)

[www.ndaajustice.org/ntlc\\_home.html](http://www.ndaajustice.org/ntlc_home.html) (Nat'l Traffic Law Center)

[www.nih.gov/research-training](http://www.nih.gov/research-training) (Research)

[www.decp.org](http://www.decp.org) (Int'l Drug Eval. & Classification Program)

Jennifer R. Knudsen

Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor

Colorado District Attorneys' Council

Jen@cdac.state.co.us

(303) 830-9115



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