

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 (NHTSA/IACP Manuals)

www.ndaajustice.org/ntlc_home.html (Nat'l Traffic Law Center)

www.nih.gov/research-training (Research)

www.decp.org (Int'l Drug Eval. & Classification Program)

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