

signs and Symptoms

MARIJUANA

Street Names: Weed, Pot, Grass, Ganja, Joint, Blunt, Mary Jane

Method of Use: Smoked (*pipe, joint-cigarette size, blunt-cigar size*), Ingested (*mixed with food*)

Symptoms/Effects of Use

- ▶ Euphoria (*elated sense of well-being*)
- ▶ Distorted perceptions
- ▶ Red/blood-shot eyes
- ▶ Disruption of coordination/balance
- ▶ Slowed reaction time
- ▶ Lack of motivation
- ▶ Memory impairment
- ▶ Difficulty thinking and solving problems
- ▶ Anxiety, fear, distrust, paranoia
- ▶ Cancer of the lungs
- ▶ Brain damage
- ▶ Frequent acute chest illnesses (*asthma, emphysema*)
- ▶ Greater risk for lung infections (*Bronchitis, Pneumonia, common cold*)
- ▶ Psychosis
- ▶ Chronic use: increased rates of anxiety, depression, and schizophrenia

What to Look For

- ▶ Red/blood-shot eyes
- ▶ White bumps on the tongue (*only after recent/immediate use*)
- ▶ Smell of marijuana and/or strong odors of cologne/perfume to mask marijuana smell
- ▶ Excessive use of eye drops
- ▶ Having the “munchies”
- ▶ Money spent/unaccounted for
- ▶ Difficulty holding a conversation
- ▶ Inappropriate laughter
- ▶ Evidence of drug paraphernalia

Withdrawal Symptoms

- ▶ Irritability
- ▶ Sleeping difficulties
- ▶ Cravings
- ▶ Anxiety
- ▶ Depressed mood

Note: Each person may experience different symptoms/effects. This list is not inclusive. For more information, visit www.drugabuse.gov