Smoking marijuana interferes with learning and memory which increases the risk of poor grades and dropping out of school. Research shows regular marijuana use by teens reduces IQ levels and test scores.

In the 2013 Monitoring the Future Survey, five-year drug use trends shows significant increases in past-year and past-month (current) marijuana use among 8th, 10th, and 12th graders. From 2008 to 2013, past-month marijuana use increased from 5.8 percent to 7 percent among 8th graders; 13.8 percent to 18 percent among 10th graders; and 19.4 percent to 22.7 percent among 12th graders.

What Are Marijuana Concentrates?

A marijuana concentrate is a highly potent THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol) concentrated mass that is most similar in appearance to either honey or butter, which is why it is referred to or known on the street as "honey oil" or "budder."

Marijuana concentrates contain extraordinarily high THC levels that could range from 40 to 80%. This form of marijuana can be up to four times stronger in THC content than high grade or top shelf marijuana, which normally measures around 20% THC levels.

How Is It Abused?

One form of abuse occurs orally by infusing marijuana concentrates in various food or drink products; however, smoking remains the most popular form of ingestion by use of water or oil pipes.

A disturbing aspect of this emerging threat is the ingestion of concentrates via electronic cigarettes (also known as e-cigarettes) or vaporizers. Many abusers of marijuana concentrates prefer the e-cigarette/vaporizer because it's smokeless, odorless and easy to hide or conceal. The user takes a small amount of marijuana concentrate, referred to as a "dab," then heats the substance using the e-cigarette/vaporizer producing vapors that ensures an instant "high" effect upon the user. Using an e-cigarette/vaporizer to ingest marijuana concentrates is commonly referred to as "dabbing" or "vaping."

What Are The Effects Of Using Marijuana Concentrates?

Being a highly concentrated form of marijuana, the effects upon the user may be more psychologically and physically intense than plant marijuana use. To date, long term effects of marijuana concentrate use are not yet fully known; but, we do know the effects of plant marijuana use. These effects include paranoia, anxiety, panic attacks, and hallucinations. Additionally, the use of plant marijuana increases one's heart rate and blood pressure. Plant marijuana users may also experience withdrawal and addiction problems.

Street Names

Street or "slang" terms change often and vary regionally across the country. Marijuana concentrates are often referred to as 710 (the word "OIL" flipped and spelled backwards), wax, ear wax, honey oil, budder, butane hash oil, butane honey oil (BHO), shatter, dabs (dabbing), black glass, and errl.