



Study Title:

Exploring Cannabis Use and Effects in Adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

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Purpose

The purpose of this study is to investigate cannabis use among adults with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and related conditions. Some researchers have found that there are relatively high rates of pot (aka: marijuana, weed, cannabis) use among adults with FASD compared to healthy adults, but not much is known about pot use in this population. Many adults with FASD have comorbid physical and mental health problems, and may use pot to help with these symptoms.

In this study we are collecting data to understand how much adults with FASD use pot, as well as the reasons for use. We are also interested in whether pot use has positive or negative effects.

Eligibility

You are eligible to participate if you live in Canada and you are either:

- A close family member, foster parent, guardian, or residential care staff taking care of an adult (currently aged 18 or older) who has a diagnosis of FASD or a related disorder who has used pot or currently uses pot, and has regular personal contact with the person with FASD.
- Working in an FASD-related profession (i.e., support/case worker, social worker, educational assistant, mentor, occupational therapist, speech language pathologist, psychologist, therapist, or job coach) and regularly provides direct services to an adult with FASD who has used pot or currently uses pot.

Procedures

If you are interested in participating in this study, you are invited to complete an online survey. The survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. The survey questions will ask about pot use in adults with FASD (age and type of use). Questions will also ask about possible benefits and side effects from pot use. The questions will also ask about possible benefits and side effects from pot use, and experiences of adults with FASD who try to access substance use treatment.

Funding

This study is funded by the Canada FASD Research Network (CanFASD).



Potential Risks

There are no known or anticipated risks to you by participating in this research.

Potential Benefits

There are no direct benefits for your participation in this study. Your participation in this study will contribute to our scientific understanding of any possible impact of pot use among individuals with FASD.

Confidentiality

We will use the responses from the survey to write reports, manuscripts and presentations. In these formats, we will never include anything that would allow people to know who you are, as we will not have collected any identifying information.

The survey is hosted by RedCap, a secure online survey tool. This third-party software is managed and serviced by the University of Saskatchewan. The privacy policy which governs our use of REDCap has been developed in the context of and designed to comply with Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (LAFOIP), provincial Health Information Protection Act (HIPA), and federal Canada's Anti-Spam Legislation (CASL). More information can be found at <https://policies.usask.ca/policies/operations-and-general-administration/it-communications-policy.php#ScopeofthisPolicy>

Storage of Data

Any information we keep on a computer will only be seen by people who are working on the study. It will need a password to be opened. We will do everything we can to make sure it is kept private. Electronic data may be stored on a password-protected computer during analyses, but will be moved to a secure password-protected electronic data storage folder hosted by the University of Saskatchewan server for long-term storage. If any paper information is generated it will be kept in a locked filing cabinet in the Research Coordinator's office in Ellis Hall at the University of Saskatchewan.

The information we use for the study will be kept for 5 years post publication. After 5 years, the electronic data will be deleted using a program that does not permit recovery. If any paper information is generated, it will be shredded.

Right to Withdraw

Participation in this survey is voluntary. You can decide not to participate at any time by closing your browser, or choose not to answer any questions you do not feel comfortable with. Survey responses will remain anonymous. Since the survey is anonymous, once it is submitted it cannot be removed.



Whether you choose to participate or not will have no effect on any access to services from CanFASD or from any community organizations that partner with CanFASD.

Follow up:

To obtain results from the study, please email Andrea DesRoches, Research Coordinator, Department of Psychiatry at andrea.desroches@usask.ca or call 306-844-1335. A summary of the final research report will be made available to you. You do not need to identify that you were a participant of this study in order to obtain a copy of the results.

Questions or Concerns:

Contact the researcher(s) using the information at the top of this web page.

This project was reviewed on ethical grounds by the University of Saskatchewan Behavioural Research Ethics Board. Any questions regarding your rights as a participant may be addressed to the Research Ethics Office toll free at 1-888-966-2975 or ethics.office@usask.ca. You are welcome to print this page for you to keep.

Consent

By completing and submitting this questionnaire, **your free and informed consent is implied** and indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study.

Please be aware that, by consenting, you are not waiving your rights to legal recourse in the event of research-related harm.

I agree to take part in this survey.

Yes

No