Cannabis Research & Policy Project colorado school of public health

# **UPDATES OF ACTIVITIES UNDER <u>HB 21-1317</u>**

# **KEY RESOURCES**

- Scoping Review Report
- Interactive Evidence Map
- Health Effects of High-Concentration Cannabis Products: Scoping Review & Evidence Map
- <u>Policy Approaches to High-</u> <u>Concentration Cannabis and THC</u> <u>Concentrates</u>
- Enhancing Methodological
  <u>Approaches for Studying Health</u>
  <u>Effects of High-Concentration THC</u>
  <u>Products</u>
- <u>Methodological Challenges &</u> <u>Actionable Recommendations in</u> <u>Studying the Health Effects of High-</u> <u>Concentration THC Products</u>

### NEXT SCIENTIFIC REVIEW COUNCIL MEETING:

## TBA

## **REMINDER:**

**Note:** We offer the reminder that our activities under HB 1317 are directed at high-concentration marijuana and THC concentrates and not at cannabis and THC generally. The scoping review available on our project website is subject to this specific focus. For those seeking information on marijuana and concentrates generally, there are general resources available, such as the CDC's Marijuana and Public NIDA's Health page and Cannabis (Marijuana) DrugFacts page. This report and the scope of our work under the charge of HB 1317 do not address cannabinoids other than THC.

# Updates from the Administrative and Research Cores of the Cannabis Research and Policy Project

Welcome to the ninth newsletter from the Cannabis Research and Policy Project. With ongoing state funding, the team updated the scoping review of the scientific literature through November 2023, adding 100 studies to the <u>interactive evidence map</u>. The team continues to update the scoping review covering research studies published in the last year. The plan is to update the evidence map by early 2025 and to continue to do so on an annual basis.

The team has now used the scoping review to complete a detailed systematic review of the scientific evidence provided by the studies identified in the evidence map that address mental health. The report is under development for submission to a peer-reviewed journal.

In June, we held a workshop with a multidisciplinary group of researchers to address the challenges of surveillance and research in the face of the rapidly changing marketplace. The attendees placed an emphasis on research methods for assessing the use of cannabis products. A report on the workshop's recommendations has been submitted for publication.

Our team is also working on developing a series of continuing education events for healthcare providers that will focus on high-concentration cannabis and such topics as the current marketplace, cannabis use and driving, and other topics. Information will be posted on our website as these events are scheduled.

We are preparing for the launch of the educational campaign, <u>The Tea on THC</u>. We plan to hold the next Scientific Review Council (SRC) meeting in early 2025 to provide an update on the ongoing reviews and activities of the educational campaign team. Prior meeting minutes are available on our <u>website</u>.

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# SPECIFIC UPDATES RELATING TO THE EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES UNDER <u>HB 21-1317</u>

## **Educational Campaign Updates:**

### 1. Partnerships: New and Continuing:

Since hosting the <u>"Fight the Funk" Leadership Summit</u> in October, the University of Northern Colorado team, led by Dannon Cox, PhD with Jenn Leiferman, PhD, continues to monitor and provide guidance to students implementing the action plans they developed at the fall summit. The plans teach alternative coping mechanisms for stress and positive psychology skills to their peers at their home schools. This team is also finalizing a mindfulness resource guide to use with students at the Fight the Funk Spring Leadership Summit.

The Motivational Interviewing (MI) project, led by Annie Collier, PhD with James Corbett from Initium Health, and Sheana Bull, PhD from Clinic Chat, is training a chatbot using Motivational Interviewing techniques. The next steps include pilot testing with focus groups.

The science-informed art project, led by Annie Collier, PhD, is finalizing contracts with an artist and curriculum developer as well as a project manager. Once in place, this team will develop a curriculum to guide teachers about how to speak to their students about high-concentration cannabis and produce art based on what they learn.

The Promoting Perinatal Wellness team, led by Jenn Leiferman, PhD with Sheana Bull, PhD from Clinic Chat, is testing approximately 150 messages about coping to those resonating with perinatal and post-partum populations.

#### 2. Initium Health:

The <u>Tea on THC</u> campaign officially launched in November with the release of messages on the brand's unique social media channels. To check out the campaign, please visit the <u>Tea on THC</u> <u>Instagram</u>, <u>YouTube</u> channel, and <u>website</u>. Initium Health will collect, analyze, and report on marketing metrics on a regular basis as content goes live. In addition to on-screen content, the campaign will also launch billboards, bus stop ads, and other outof-home paid media. Upcoming plans include interviews with our team members on various media outlets as well as a December press event. Dates and further details to be announced shortly.

#### 3. Evaluation:

The program evaluation team, led by Annie Collier, PhD, presented baseline data at the SRC meeting on November 6th. Details from this meeting are available on our <u>project website</u>. Going forward the team is working on producing a report, potentially for publication, about findings pertaining to beliefs, knowledge, and attitudes about cannabis use in Colorado amongst young adults.

