

FACT SHEET
Emerging Public Health Concern: Delta-8 THC

- Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is a cannabinoid component of *Cannabis sativa*. This chemical is distinct from delta-9 THC, the main psychoactive compound found in marijuana.
- Delta-8 THC can be extracted and made from cannabidiol (CBD) in the hemp plant. However, its effects on the body are different from CBD.
- Although less psychoactive than delta-9 THC, delta-8 THC has psychoactive properties that can cause clinically significant toxicity.
- Federally, delta-8 THC is unregulated since it is different from delta-9 THC.
- Delta-8 THC appeals to youth seeking a 'legal high'. It is available as fruit-flavored gummies and in vape solution. The colorful fruit-flavored gummies can be attractive to young children.
- Recently in a nearby state, two cases of severe adverse reactions to delta-8 THC have been reported in children.
 - The children ingested their father's gummies, purchased at a vape shop.
 - They became symptomatic with deep sedation and slowed breathing with initial increased heart rate progressing to slowed heart rate and blood pressure.
 - Both children were admitted to the intensive care unit for further monitoring and oxygen supplementation.
- Exposures to delta-8 THC have also been reported in adults with products that were mistaken for CBD-like products. These exposures led to symptoms consistent with cannabinoid intoxication.
- Delta-8 THC can cause symptoms similarly observed during cannabinoid intoxication, including:
 - Lethargy
 - Uncoordinated movements, decreased psychomotor activity
 - Slurred speech
 - Increased heart rate progressing to slowed heart rate
 - Low blood pressure
 - Difficulty breathing
 - Sedation
 - Coma
- Long-term effects of using delta-8 THC are unknown.
- There is no specific antidote. Treatment is largely symptomatic and supportive care.
- Clinicians should be vigilant in observing patients presenting with marijuana-like symptoms who do not report a marijuana exposure or history of use.
 - Symptomatic patients should be questioned about their use of CBD or delta-8-THC products.
 - It is unclear whether delta-8-THC can be detectable or cross-reacts during routine testing for delta-9-THC.

Seek help for Substance Use Disorder as soon as possible. Call the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) at 800-662-HELP (4357), or visit www.FindTreatment.gov to locate support and assistance for Substance Use Disorder in your community.

For those who have questions about drug safety or any substance call your Michigan Poison Center at

1-800-222-1222

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