

AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION POLICY STATEMENT ON CANNABIS

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine maintains that the medicinal benefits of cannabis are largely unknown, and that its use is associated with lower birth weight, an increased number of car accidents and other risks. The U.S. Surgeon General has also issued warnings about health risks tied to cannabis use.

The science about the benefits of cannabis is limited, while the available evidence demonstrates that legalizing the adult use of cannabis poses a threat to public health. Our AMA does not support legalization of cannabis for adult use until additional scientific research has been completed to fully document the public health, medical and economic consequences of its use.

We remain particularly concerned about cannabis use by young people as well as by pregnant or breastfeeding women, and continue to call for robust public health messaging on the deleterious health effects of cannabis.