



Adolescent Drug Terminology: 2020-2021 Edition



Carts

Vaping carts or cartridges have become a popular way to use cannabis. They are usually sold pre-filled with cannabis concentrates that attach to a base (battery). The base heats the concentrate when activated to create a cannabis aerosol that is then inhaled. Typically this cannabis concentrate is much stronger than cannabis flower. Black market carts containing vitamin E acetate and fungicide and pesticide toxins have been responsible for many of the recent vaping deaths and lung-related illnesses.



Vape (Dab) Pens

Usually refers to a cannabis vaping device similar to carts. Often these pens are smaller than carts, disposable, and activated by inhaling instead of pushing a button. Technically, vape pens contain cannabis liquid while dab pens use stronger concentrated cannabis wax, but the two are often referred to interchangeably.



Dank Vapes

Dank vapes are one of the most prominent and familiar generic product names in the underground/black market cannabis economy. They are essentially empty cartridges that anyone can fill. They have been found to contain many different toxins because they are unregulated and untested when filled. These products have been responsible for many of the vaping-related deaths and illnesses.



Disposables

Disposable nicotine vaping products have surged in popularity recently because of the recent ban on flavors in pod/refillable products like Juul. The current flavor ban does not currently cover disposable vaping products, so now young people are still able to get multiple flavors in disposable products. Also, they are cheaper so if they are confiscated or caught there is less lost.



Scromiting

Another term for a condition known as cannabinoid hyperemesis syndrome (CHS). Characterized by vomiting and abdominal pain with regular, heavy cannabis use for 1-5 years. The term is thought to have originated among hospital staff after witnessing screaming and vomiting at the same time.

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CBD

Abbreviation for Cannabidiol (one of the active ingredients in the cannabis plant). CBD is not psychoactive (mind-altering) in its pure form and is used in an FDA approved medication to reduce seizures in children with rare forms of epilepsy. However, CBD oils sold in stores and online are not regulated or tested. They often contain inconsistent amounts of CBD or have other ingredients like tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychoactive ingredient in cannabis. This has led to cases of acute poisoning, seizures, hallucinations, loss of consciousness, nausea, and vomiting.



Bars (aka ladders)

Bars is another name for rectangular shaped Xanax (an anti-anxiety medication) pills with three lines in them (typically 2 mg per 'bar'). This drug is increasing in abuse among youth. If a teen says someone was "barred out," it means that they were highly sedated due to Xanax consumption.



Dabs (aka wax)

A term used to describe highly concentrated butane hash oil (BHO). The term dab was coined because a small "dab" of the substance is heated on a rig and inhaled. It is created in a process where high quality cannabis is blasted with butane and extracted. Dabs typically contain 70-90% THC compared to 5-15% THC in regular cannabis.



Juul (pronounced jewel)

A specific nicotine vaping product that has become one of the most popular among teens. It is black and rectangular (about 4 inches long) and looks like a computer flash drive. It often comes with various flavor attachments (cool mint, mango, crème brûlée) to entice youth to use it. The liquid contains nicotine salts with twice as much nicotine as previous e-cigarettes. The liquids and flavoring agents are unregulated and often contain undisclosed carcinogens (diacetyl, propylene oxide, acrolein, aldehydes) that can cause significant lung damage over time.



Vaping (aka vaporizing)

Term used to describe when a substance is heated to the point of releasing vapor but not combusted (lit on fire). It is increasing in popularity as a way to ingest nicotine and cannabis, often in an electronic device that looks like a pen. Usually relatively odorless and difficult to distinguish between nicotine and cannabis vape device.

**For more information or to make a referral,
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