

## Effects on the Body



Name	_ Class	Date	

### **Short Term Effects**

Within a few minutes after inhaling marijuana smoke, a person's **heart rate** speeds up, the bronchial passages (the pipes that let air in and out of your lungs) relax and become enlarged, and **blood vessels** in the eyes expand, making the eyes look red. While these and other effects seem harmless, they can take a toll on the body. Regular use of marijuana has also been linked to depression, anxiety, and a loss of drive or motivation.

#### In the short-term, marijuana can cause:

- · problems with learning and memory
- distorted perception (sights, sounds, time, touch)
- poor motor coordination
- · increased heart rate

# Marijuana affects each person differently according to:

- · biology (his or her genes)
- · marijuana's strength or potency (how much THC it has)
- · previous experience with the drug





## **PREVIEW**

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uo cause cancer.

 Greater risk of lung infections like pneumonia – Like tobacco smoke, marijuana smoke has a toxic mixture of gases and tiny particles that can harm the lungs.



### How long does marijuana stay in the body?

The **THC** (psychoactive ingredient) in marijuana is rapidly absorbed by fatty tissues in various organs throughout the body. In general, standard **urine tests** can detect traces (metabolites) of THC **several days** after use. In heavy users, THC metabolites can sometimes be detected for weeks after use stops.





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