



Cannabis Use in the Perinatal Period

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Disclosures: Neeta Shenai, MD

- With respect to the following presentation, there has been no relevant (direct or indirect) financial relationship between the party listed above (and/or spouse/partner) and any for-profit company which could be considered a conflict of interest.

Learning Objectives

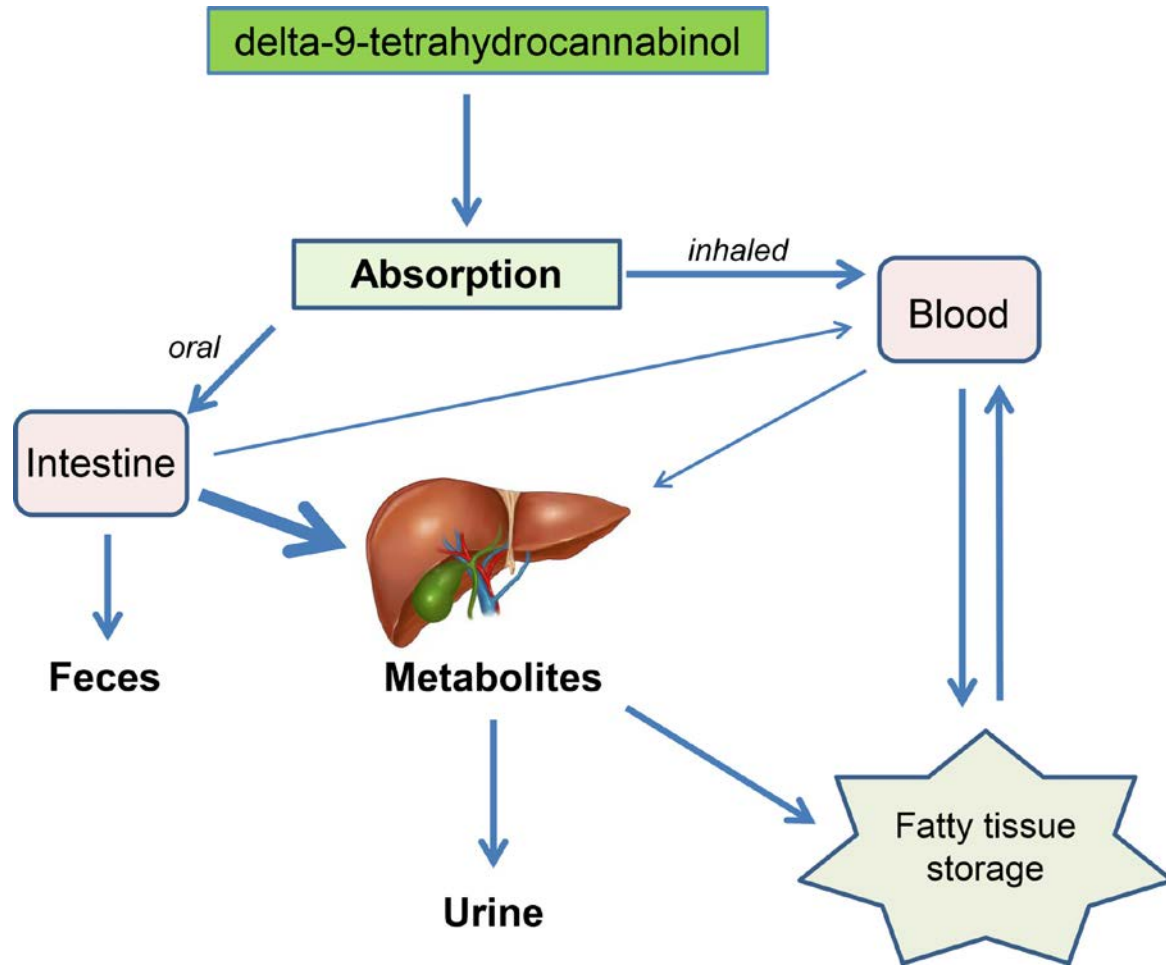
- Review the current guidelines for marijuana use in pregnancy including specific risks in each reproductive domain.
- Discuss the available evidence for breastfeeding and use of marijuana.

True/False

- Medical marijuana is safe to use in pregnancy.
- There is data to support use of marijuana in pregnancy for nausea and vomiting.
- Marijuana use in pregnancy may be associated with an increase risk of neonatal morbidity.

Case: Ms. A

- Ms. A presents to her obstetrician's office at 10 weeks gestation. She reports use of marijuana three times a week and struggles to quantify exact amount of use. She states that she feels it helps with nausea. She denies other substance use except for smoking nicotine one pack per day.
- How would you counsel Ms. A on marijuana use in pregnancy?



Reproductive Domains and Marijuana

- Congenital Malformations
- Growth effects
- Preterm delivery
- Neonatal morbidity/stillbirth
- Breastfeeding
- Long term neurodevelopmental effects

Marijuana Use in Pregnancy

Moderate Evidence	Limited/Insufficient Evidence	Mixed Evidence
Effect of second hand smoke	Failed to show association with birth defects	Pre-term delivery
Attention problems	Stillbirth	Low birth weight
Decrease in cognitive function	Breastfeeding	Increase in NICU admission

True/False

- Medical marijuana is safe to use in pregnancy.
 - False
- There is data to support use of marijuana in pregnancy for nausea and vomiting.
 - False
- Marijuana use in pregnancy may be associated with an increase risk of neonatal morbidity.
 - True

Take Home Points

- All women should be screened for marijuana use (preconception, pregnancy, & postpartum)
- Women should be counseled on potential adverse effects of use in pregnancy
- Pregnant women or women contemplating pregnancy should be advised to discontinue use of marijuana
- Women should be advised to discontinue use in breastfeeding

References

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