**Introduction**

- Challenges inherent in assessing cannabis use include a lack of standardized doses, differing product potencies, and an overreliance on self-report.\(^1,2\)
- Quantity of cannabis used may relate to experiences of consequences,\(^3,4\) but individuals may not accurately recall or report their use.\(^1,5\)
- Understanding correlates of cannabis problems is critical to intervention efforts.

**The Present Study:**

To determine whether average cannabis intoxication levels might better predict problems than quantity or frequency of use.

**Methods**

**Participants**

- Recruited across 9 surveys spanning 8 years (2011 - 2019)
- Respondents included members of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML), university students, and individuals recruited through social media
- All participants reported using cannabis at least 6 days per week.

**Measures**

- Demographics
- Cannabis Use (Quantity per month in ounces)
- Average Cannabis Intoxication (0 “Not at all” – 6 “Extremely high”)
- Cannabis-Associated Problems Questionnaire (CAPQ)\(^6\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N</th>
<th>2,659</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean age</td>
<td>34.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% female</td>
<td>38.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Caucasian</td>
<td>84.8%</td>
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**Results**

- On average, participants reported using 1.12 ounces of cannabis monthly (SD = .35 ounces, Range = less than 1/8 ounce to more than 3 ounces), attaining a moderate level of intoxication (M = 3.49, SD = 1.21, Range = 0-6), and experiencing a mild amount of cannabis problems (M = 8.21, SD = 9.08).
- Pearson correlations demonstrated significant relations between CAPQ scores and intoxication but not CAPQ scores and quantity consumed per month:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. CAPQ Scores</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Quantity per month</td>
<td>.005</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Average intoxication</td>
<td>.153*</td>
<td>.086*</td>
<td>1.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note. * p < .001.

- A comparison of correlation coefficients\(^7\) revealed that average intoxication had a larger correlation with CAPQ scores than quantity of cannabis consumed per month (Z = - 5.53, p < .001).

**Discussion**

- In a large sample of near daily cannabis users, average intoxication significantly covaried with cannabis problems while quantity of cannabis used per month did not.
- The correlation between average intoxication and cannabis problems significantly exceeded the correlation between quantity per month and problems.
- Individuals might more accurately remember their experiences of being high as opposed to recalling exactly how much they consumed over a month’s span.
- Future work should continue to examine relations between intoxication and other indices of cannabis use to confirm and extend our findings.

**References**


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