According to the U.S. Surgeon General, "No amount of marijuana use during adolescence is known to be safe." Cannabis use during adolescence is associated with changes in the areas of the brain involved in attention, memory, decision-making, and motivation; impaired learning, increased rates of school absence and drop-out, as well as suicide attempts. Cannabis use also impacts a number of skills that are necessary for driving; alertness, concentration, coordination, reaction time and depth perception.

*TODAY’S CANNABIS is stronger than ever before. People can and do become addicted to marijuana. "Approximately 1 in 10 people who use marijuana will become addicted. When they start before age 18, the rate of addiction rises to 1 in 6."*

**BRAIN HEALTH:**
Cannabis can cause permanent IQ loss of as much as 8 points when people start using it at a young age. These IQ points do not come back, even after quitting cannabis. *NDIA*

**MENTAL HEALTH:**
Studies link cannabis use to depression, anxiety, suicide planning, and psychotic episodes. It is not known, however, if cannabis use is the cause of these conditions. *NDIA*

**DRIVING:**
Since recreational cannabis was legalized in Colorado, cannabis-related traffic deaths increased 151 percent while all traffic deaths increased 35%. *2018 HDTA*

**WHAT CAN I DO?**
Talk to your pediatrician or call a local substance use treatment agency

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