

Capabilities Presentation

Committee on Cost-benefit Analysis of
Legalized Marijuana In Colorado

September 21, 2016



Marijuana Education Initiative

Why We're Here Today

- The Committee on Cost-benefit Analysis of Legalized Marijuana voted to draft a bill to provide funding from the marijuana tax cash fund to help develop age-appropriate curriculum that would be available to school districts to use for marijuana awareness and prevention. We would like the Committee's consideration to adopt the MEI solution supporting the bill's directive.

MEI Mission Statement

- The mission of MEI is to provide researched-based information, educational materials and training that promote a balanced and informed understanding of the effects of youth marijuana use.

What is MEI

- The Marijuana Education Initiative is a non-partisan, **school-based** program that provides educators, schools, communities, and families with information and resources to better understand and confront the challenges associated with the changing dynamics created by legalized marijuana.
- <http://www.cbsnews.com/news/colorado-pot-focused-education-seventh-grade-students/>



Why MEI?

- MEI fills a need for post-legalization, **marijuana-specific curricula** that shifts the dialogue and approach to adolescent drug prevention. Marijuana laws and views are changing across the country and MEI is committed to providing youth with progressive education to accompany this change.

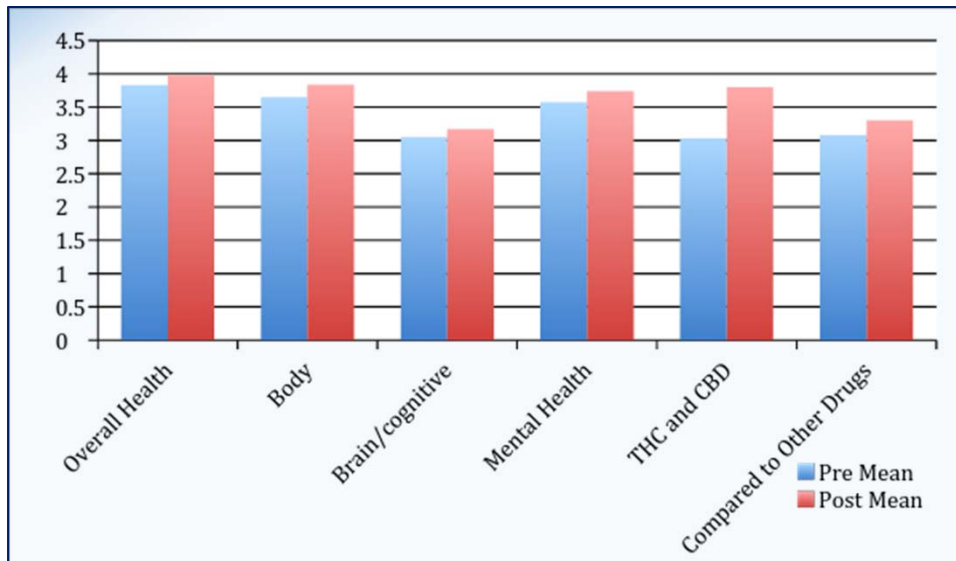
How MEI Was Developed

- MEI curricula aligns with the Retail Marijuana Public Health Advisory Committee, comprising professionals in the fields of public health, medicine, epidemiology, and medical toxicology appointed to review scientific literature on the health effects of marijuana, summarize the evidence and make recommendations. Additionally, MEI content was drawn from:
 - National Institute of Health (NIH)
 - American Medical Association
 - Children's Hospital, Denver
 - University of Colorado Hospital, Denver

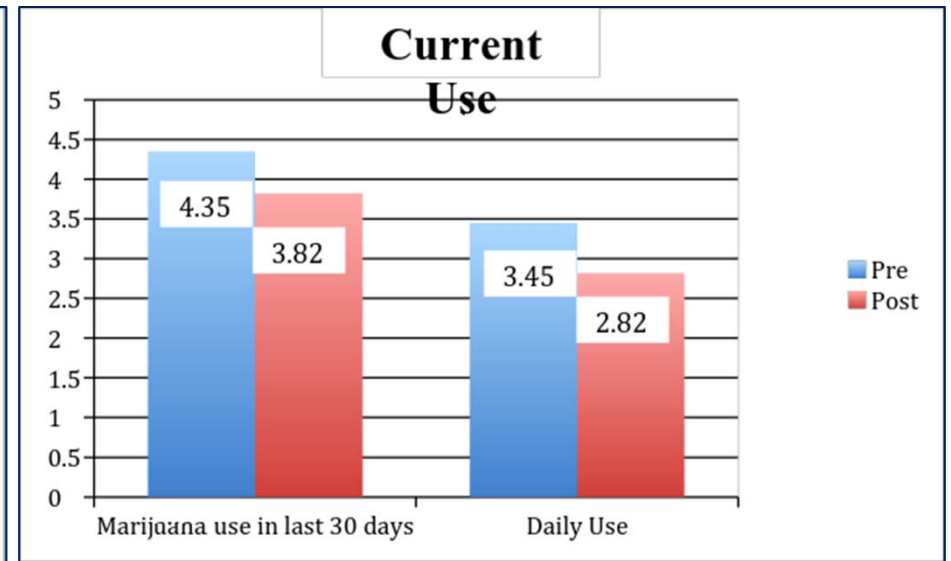
MEI Key Differentiators

- Only Marijuana-Specific, School-Based Curricula in the US
- Only Curricula to Administer Adolescent Marijuana Usage Survey and Data Collection
- Only Curricula to Collect, Qualify and Quantify Benchmark Data
- Only Curricula that Measures Key Performance Indicators
- Only Curricula that will Generate Actionable Data

MEI Consolidated Reporting



Perceived Harm of Marijuana: Pre-Test and Post-Test after exposure to the Marijuana Impact Awareness High School level curriculum.



Post Intervention Program

MEI Collaboration Partners

- Colorado State University, Fort Collins – Department of Behavioral Sciences
- Colorado State University, Pueblo – Cannabis Research Institute
- Washington State Institute for Public Policy, Olympia, WA
- Roseman University of Health Sciences, Henderson, NV – College of Pharmacy
- The Drug Policy Alliance, Trenton, NJ – Marijuana Law & Policy

MEI Evidence-Based Status

- MEI will be assigned **research-based** status in the spring, 2017 and is on track toward **evidence-based** status, granted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in the fall 2017. Data is currently being collected and evaluated from MEI implementations:

- State of California – Humboldt County
- State of Washington - North West Educational Service District 189
- State of Colorado

MEI Implementations Colorado

- **Routt County School District**
 - Hayden High School
 - Hayden Middle School
 - Yampa Valley High School
 - Steamboat Springs High School
 - Steamboat Springs Middle School
 - South Routt High School
 - South Routt Middle School
 - South Routt Elementary School
 - North Routt Community Charter School
 - Steamboat Mountain School (Private)
- **Denver Public Schools**
 - Skinner Middle School
 - Wyman Middle School
 - Noel Community Arts School
 - Hamilton Middle School
- **Cherry Creek School District**
 - Career and Tech Education Division
- **Adams County School District 12**
 - Horizon High School
 - Legacy High School
 - Mountain Range High School
 - Stukeley Elementary
 - Century Middle School
- **Jefferson County School District**
- **Hi-Plains School District**

What MEI Offers

- Marijuana Education and Impact Awareness Curriculum
- Marijuana Intervention Curriculum
- Infraction Response / Alternative to Suspension Curriculum
- Athlete Awareness Curriculum
- Marijuana And the Young Adult College Curriculum

MEI Classroom Material Sample



Prevention Unit 1

How Marijuana Works

Because of this similarity in structure, the body recognizes _____ and allows it to alter normal brain communication.




When you introduce marijuana to the brain, the _____ in the marijuana produces its effects by mimicking anandamide and "locking in" to the receptors designed for anandamide.



When you supply your brain with lots of THC, it stops making as much _____.


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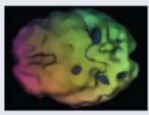
Prevention Unit 2

Marijuana and the Brain

Your brain controls more than just the way you think. It controls _____ sensations, body movements, sense of _____, and _____ as well as feelings of pleasure and _____.



Marijuana use decreases blood flow and activity in the brain. Reduce blood flow and limited activity in the brain look like "holes" in SPECT scans.



There is evidence that adolescents and young adults who regularly use marijuana are more likely than non-users to have ongoing impairment of cognitive and academic abilities for at least _____ days after last use.

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Next Steps with MEI

- 2016 – 2017 Rollout Plan

Thank You for the Opportunity

"Teachers open the door, but you must enter by yourself"

- Chinese Proverb