

Gonçalves-Pinho M, Bragança M, Freitas A. Psychotic disorders hospitalizations associated with cannabis abuse or dependence: A nationwide big data analysis. *Int J Methods Psychiatr Res.* 2019;e1813. <https://doi.org/10.1002/mpr.1813>

The purpose of this study was not to demonstrate how the use of cannabis directly causes psychotic disorders such as schizophrenia, but instead look at if there were any trends between the two. The study did this by performing a retrospective observational study from 2000 – 2015 in which people who were hospitalized for psychosis (such as schizophrenia) were identified and were subsequently selected if they were cannabis users. Roughly a quarter of all hospitalized cannabis users were diagnosed with schizophrenia or another psychotic disorder. From 2000 – 2015 there was a rise in the percentage of patients who were diagnosed with psychosis or schizophrenia and were cannabis users. One could conclude that there were more patients who were using cannabis that were hospitalized with a psychotic disorder than patients who were not using cannabis. There was also a lower age of patients who used cannabis and developed a psychotic disorder (mean age of 30) compared to hospitalized psychotic patients who did not use cannabis (42). What was not measured from the study was the amount of cannabis consumed, as well as how potent the cannabis was, or if the cannabis was laced with a certain drug such as cocaine, amphetamine, or a hallucinogen.

This study has been reviewed by Jason Fishbein on 3/22/2020