



Recommendation from the Board of Health to Ban Unregulated THC

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October 8, 2024

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Unregulated THC and Delta-8



- Delta-8 and Delta-10 are examples of unregulated THC.
- Delta-8 is a naturally occurring cannabinoid in hemp.
- The concentrations of Delta-8 in hemp are less than 0.3%, which will not produce the "high" of Delta-9 THC. However, Delta-8 can be synthetically altered to increase the concentration of THC.
- Delta-8 products are the most common form of unregulated THC sold in stores currently.
- Delta-8 has not been studied to know what concentrations are dangerous or produce a "high." More research is needed on the effects it has on the mind and body.
- There is no age restriction for buying unregulated THC products at this time.

What is Delta-9 THC?



Like Delta-8, Delta-9 THC is a naturally occurring cannabinoid

However, unlike Delta-8, Delta-9 THC ...

- Naturally occurs in concentrations in hemp at greater than 0.3%, and does not need to be synthesized into greater concentrations to produce a "high"
- Is most commonly known as THC
- Produces a natural "high" when ingested
- Is regulated by the FDA, its concentrations must be correctly labeled for sale, and it is legal in the state of Illinois when sold at regulated dispensaries
- Is not allowed to be marketed to children, and a consumer must be 21 years old to purchase

Unregulated THC Public Health Concern



Delta-8 THC is a form of unregulated THC. It must be synthesized to create the concentrations that produce a “high,” and that are marketed on commercially available products. This synthesizing process often produces potentially harmful chemicals as byproducts, which remain in the products that people

Manufacturing of synthesized THC products may occur in uncontrolled or unsanitary settings, which may lead to the presence of unsafe contaminants or other potentially harmful substances



Unregulated THC Public Health Concern



Unregulated THC products have not been evaluated or approved by the FDA for safe use in any context, and may be marketed in ways that put the public health at risk.

This raises several significant public health concerns.



Unregulated THC Public Health Concern



The FDA has received adverse event reports involving products that contain delta-8 THC. Between Dec. 1, 2020 and Feb. 28, 2022, 104 reports of this nature were filed.

Adverse events included, but were not limited to: hallucinations, vomiting, tremor, anxiety, dizziness, confusion and loss of consciousness.



Unregulated THC Public Health Concern



National poison control centers received 2,362 exposure cases of delta-8 THC products between January 1, 2021 (the date that delta-8 THC product code was added to database), and February 28, 2022.

One pediatric case was coded with a medical outcome of death.



Unregulated THC Public Health Concern



Unregulated THC products should be kept out of the reach of children.

Manufacturers are creating unregulated THC products that resemble popular children's snacks and treats, including candy and gummies.

In addition, the products are often packaged to draw children's attention.

Because of the lack of regulation, the packaging of unregulated THC products is not required to be childproof.

These products can be purchased online, or at a variety of retailers, including convenience stores and gas stations, where there may not be age limits on who can purchase these products.



Examples of delta-8 products

Pending FDA & State Action



The FDA is now actively working with federal and state partners to further address the concerns related to these products because of the uptick in adverse event reports, contamination and manufacturing concerns, and the fact that delta-8 products are marketed to and appealing to children.

The FDA will warn consumers about public health and safety issues and take action, when necessary, when *FDA-regulated* products violate the law.

In the Spring of 2024, the Illinois General Assembly debated the issue of banning unregulated THC products, but no bill was passed.

In the absence of comprehensive federal or State regulation, a number of Illinois municipalities have locally banned or regulated unregulated THC

Public Education and Partner and Community Outreach



- Board of Health research
- Public information
- Presentations and outreach
- Community input
- Village staff

Board of Health Recommendation



- Adopt an ordinance banning the sale of unregulated THC

- In the absence of comprehensive federal or State regulation, a number of Illinois municipalities have adopted ordinances with some of the following:
 1. Regulated or banned the manufacture, sale, possession, advertising, delivery, distribution
 2. Compliance period ranging from 0–60 days after adoption
 3. Fines or business license revocation for violations

Board of Health Recommendation



Prevention is key

Terms to Know



Hemp: A plant in the botanical class of *Cannabis sativa* cultivars, grown specifically for industrial and consumable use. Hemp can be used to make a wide range of products, including rope, textiles, building material and food (such as hemp seeds). The hemp plant does contain the psychoactive component THC, though typically in lower concentrations than other *cannabis sativa* cultivars.

Cannabinoids: Compounds found in the cannabis plant that can cause an effect on the body, including the central nervous system and the immune system. Tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, is a cannabinoid.

Delta-9 THC: A cannabinoid found in the cannabis plant. Delta-9 is the most abundant and one of the most well-known cannabinoids, responsible for the psychoactive effects, or “high” commonly associated with cannabis use, such as euphoria, altered perception, and increased appetite.

Delta-8 THC: A cannabinoid found in the cannabis plant. Delta-8 THC is a less abundant cannabinoid in the cannabis plant, and it differs from delta-9 THC in its chemical structure. Delta-8 THC is also less psychoactive than delta-9 THC, meaning it produces a milder “high.”



Questions?

