

cupit

Cannabis Use Problems Identification Test (cupit)[©]

Some people can use cannabis without developing any serious problems. Others can experience health problems, or other kinds of problems. If you answer the questions below, it can help you to work out if you are having any problems with cannabis. There are no right or wrong answers.

For each question **tick ✓** the answer closest to your cannabis use over the past 12 months.

1. On how many days have you used cannabis during the past 12 months? (If there was no pattern to your cannabis use, please make your **best estimate**.)

1. 1 – 6 days (less than one day a month)
2. 7 – 12 days (an average pattern of one day a month)
3. 13 – 36 days (an average pattern of 2 – 3 days a month)
4. 37 – 52 days (an average pattern of one day a week)
5. 53 – 104 days (an average pattern of 2 days a week)
6. up to 208 days (an average pattern of 3-4 days a week)
7. up to 312 days (an average pattern of 5-6 days a week)
8. up to 365 days (daily/most days)

2. Now please think about your **recent** cannabis use. On how many days have you used cannabis over the past 3 months (90 days)?

0. no days
1. 1 – 2 days (less than one day a month)
2. 3 – 4 days (an average pattern of one day a month)
3. 5 – 9 days (an average pattern of 2 – 3 days a month)
4. 10 – 15 days (an average pattern of one day a week)
5. 16 – 26 days (an average pattern of 2 days a week)
6. 27 – 52 days (an average pattern of 3 – 4 days a week)
7. 53 – 78 days (an average pattern of 5 – 6 days a week)
8. 79 – 90 days (daily/most days)

Over the past 12 months:

3. How many times would you use cannabis on a typical day when you were using?

(**Note:** at least one hour between each new ‘use’)

1. once
2. twice
3. 3 – 4 times
4. 5 – 6 times
5. 7 – 9 times
6. 10 or more times

Over the past 12 months:

4. How often have you used cannabis first thing in the morning?

- 0. never
- 1. once or twice
- 2. less than monthly
- 3. monthly
- 4. one day a week
- 5. several days a week
- 6. daily/always

5. How much of the average day do you spend/or feel stoned?

- 0. 0 hours
- 1. 1 – 2 hours
- 2. 3 – 4 hours
- 3. 5 – 6 hours
- 4. 7 – 8 hours
- 5. 9 or more hours

6. How difficult do you think you would find it to stop using or go without cannabis altogether?

- 0. not at all difficult
- 1. a bit difficult
- 2. quite difficult
- 3. very difficult
- 4. impossible

7. What was the longest time you went without using cannabis?

- 1. 6 months or longer
- 2. 3 – 5 months
- 3. 1 – 2 months
- 4. 2 – 3 weeks
- 5. one week
- 6. 4 – 6 days
- 7. 2 – 3 days
- 8. one day
- 9. no days at all

Over the past 12 months:

8. Have you felt that you needed cannabis?

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

9. Have you been able to stop using cannabis when you wanted to?

- 4. never/at no time
- 3. sometimes (not often)
- 2. quite often (half the time)
- 1. very often (usually)
- 0. always/all the time

10. Have you found it difficult to get through a day without using cannabis?

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

11. Did your use of cannabis ever interfere with (get in the way of) your work at school, your job, or your home life?

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

12. Have you lacked the energy to get things done in the way you used to?

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

Over the past 12 months:

- 13.** Have you given up things you used to enjoy or were important because of cannabis?
(e.g., work, school, sports, hobbies, being with family and friends, etc.)

- 0. none at all/nothing
- 1. one or two things
- 2. quite a few things
- 3. lots of things
- 4. everything

- 14.** Has anything you had planned, or were expected to do, not happened after using cannabis?
(e.g., a family outing, chores, taking care of children, homework, an assignment, appointment, job interview, training, attending school or work, etc.)

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

- 15.** Have you had problems concentrating and remembering things?

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

- 16.** Did you ever use cannabis after you had decided not to?

- 0. never
- 1. sometimes
- 2. quite often
- 3. very often
- 4. always/all the time

YOUR
TOTAL:

[NB: Item 9 is reverse scored.]

cannabis use problems identification test (cupit)© information sheet

The CUPIT was designed to stimulate thought and discussion with cannabis users around the hazards of cannabis use - a valuable component in a health/lifestyle interview

CUPIT screens for:

- cannabis use in past 12 months (frequency, intensity) - See response to Q 1
- cannabis use in past three months - See response to Q 2
- cannabis-induced problems - Score of 12 or higher
- risk of harm (current or 12-month) and dependence - Score of 20 or higher

Cut-off scores

12 – 20 = Those at risk of developing cannabis use disorder in the following 12 months

20 or more = Adult or adolescent meets the criteria for current cannabis use disorder (CUD)

82 = The highest score a person can get.

Referral Pathways

Please note; there is some flexibility in interpreting the scores, depending on the cannabis user's circumstances.

Generally, a score between 10 and 20 indicates a need for further discussion/probing around the user's consumption, at the very least.

If the interviewer is trained to conduct this exploration (according to your role, context and the scope of your practice) then you should proceed.

Otherwise, referral to those qualified to conduct this assessment is indicated as the best procedure. Refer to your organisation's guidelines around referral for any perceived problem.

NB: Research shows a sizeable group referred to drug treatment services do not actually present for this treatment.

A *stepped care approach* applies at the initial detection of cannabis use problems:

For those at low risk: an early intervention (cannabis education, discussion about cannabis' role in their life, etc).

For medium risk: education about the health hazards of cannabis use and a brief motivational intervention.

For those at high risk: further in-depth assessment and diagnosis (referral to those qualified to conduct these procedures) and a comprehensive treatment plan.

Each step depends on the response of the client to the earlier intervention.

Who can use CUPIT?

CUPIT can be self- or other-administered. If you are using CUPIT without a professional support person, please call the NZ Alcohol Drug Helpline on 0800 7878 797 if you want further help.

For further diagnostic information, see **Bashford, J., Flett, R. & Copeland, J. (2010).**

The Cannabis Use Problems Identification Test (CUPIT): Development, reliability, concurrent and predictive validity among adolescents and adults. *Addiction* 105(4), 615-625.