

Is cannabis the missing piece?



Assessment and flow chart for cannabis-related problems

While cannabis is the most commonly used illicit drug, few patients will present directly requesting assistance in managing their cannabis use or related conditions. Research has shown, however, that cannabis users recognise and support the role of GPs in the active, opportunistic assessment and management of their cannabis use. For this reason, it is important to identify high-risk groups and common symptoms for brief assessment and advice.

High-risk groups:

- those aged under 40 years
- males
- tobacco smokers
- patients with mental health conditions
- patients with chronic coughs

The following flow chart sets out the steps in the assessment and brief management of cannabis-related problems.

