Editorials

A Dangerous Mix

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One of the worst things someone at risk for diseases can do is smoke marijuana, that it can hasten the onset of the disorder. A meta analysis found that pot smokers developed psychotic disorders 2.7 years earlier than nonsmokers. The greater risk may be to people with a family history of psychosis. Pot sped up the onset of the disease by three years and worsened symptoms. The explanation lies in the brain's endocannabinoid receptors, which respond to the active chemicals in pot and play a role in dopamine regulation, increasing the psychotic episodes.