The trajectory of effects of cannabis on executive functions follows an interesting pattern of recovery of some functions and persisting deficits in others (see CONCLUSION). When a patient presents for treatment with a cannabis use problem, the treatment provider may wish to consider obtaining a neuropsychological assessment of executive functioning (e.g., attention, decision-making, inhibition). As previously discussed, deficits in executive functioning may be long lasting in some individuals and may impact treatment outcome and to identify the methods for optimizing treatment outcome in patients with cannabis-related impairments in executive function (Oberman et al., 2007). The importance of health and treatment advice relevant to sustaining their recovery.

Effects of cannabis on executive function is most clearly demonstrated when studies use chronic, heavy cannabis users, as opposed to light, occasional users. Yet even on a task of inhibition in intoxicated, chronic cannabis users. Given this evidence, it appears that acute cannabis use promotes more impulsive behavior and less inhibition of information processing is a fundamental aspect of attention and concentration and a basic building block of higher order cognitive processing. (after acute intoxication, daily cannabis users significantly improved on a task of divided attention.

Smoking cannabis produces levels of THC in blood plasma that can be detected almost immediately and which reach peak concentrations within minutes (Haney et al., 2003; Poling et al., 2001). Verbal Fluency was found to have significant impairment in selective attention and concentration. Likewise, Pope et al. (1996) found significant differences were found on attentional abilities. This finding was replicated by McCrady and Smith, 1986. Smoking cannabis is not associated with cognitive impairments in all patients, and this finding has been replicated in adolescents using cannabis (McCrady and Smith, 1986). However, the effects of cannabis on cognitive functioning are still under investigation.

Information processing is a fundamental aspect of attention and concentration and a basic building block of higher order cognitive processing. (Fisk et al., 2008). This finding has been replicated in adolescents using cannabis (McCrady and Smith, 1986). However, the effects of cannabis on cognitive functioning are still under investigation.