

November 2019 Newsletter
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CONGRESSIONAL LETTER TO DEA ON OPIOID PRODUCTION

Senators Richard Durbin (D-IL) and John Kennedy (R-LA) sent a letter to DEA on November 1 saying the agency should meaningfully reduce opioids quotas from 2019 levels. Read more [here](#).

E-CIGS STILL WORRY AMERICANS MORE THAN POT

Americans now think marijuana is much less harmful than alcohol, tobacco or e-cigarettes, according to new polling results from POLITICO and Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health released November 4. Read more [here](#).

MARIJUANA AND ALCOHOL DURING EARLY PREGNANCY MAY DISRUPT FETAL DEVELOPMENT

New preclinical research reported in animal models shows that exposure to compounds found in marijuana called cannabinoids (CBs), which includes cannabidiol (CBD) and tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), during early pregnancy can cause malformations in the developing embryo. Read more [here](#).

PUNISHING PREGNANT OPIOID USERS RISKS NEWBORN HEALTH

According to a new Rand Corporation study, infants born in states with harsh policies toward people who use opioids and other illegal substances during pregnancy are more likely to be born with withdrawal symptoms than those in states without such measures. Read more [here](#).

CAR CRASHES IN POT-LEGAL STATES HAVE SOARED

Car crashes in the first few states to legalize recreational marijuana have soared as law enforcement and regulators struggle to define driving while high. Read more [here](#).

TRUMP BACKS DOWN ON VAPING BAN

On November 4, the president refused to give his go-ahead on a plan to ban most flavored vapes, stalling a long-developing policy that was poised to be unveiled the next morning. Read more [here](#).

FEDERAL FUNDS FOR OPIOID CRISIS CAN'T PAY FOR MEDICAL MARIJUANA

The assistant secretary for mental health and substance abuse, Elinore McCance-Katz, said on November 22 that her agency will bar federal funding for opioid addiction treatment from being used on medical marijuana. Read more [here](#).

WHITE HOUSE MEETING ON VAPING RESULTS IN CONTENTIOUS DEBATE

On November 22, the White House held a contentious, wide-ranging meeting to examine increases in youth vaping and the outbreak of vaping-related lung injuries currently sweeping the United States. Read more [here](#).

NALOXONE DISPENSING WAY UP

Naloxone access in some rural counties lags behind the rest of the country despite a massive bump in the overdose antidote's overall dispensing rate. Read more [here](#).

LINK FOUND BETWEEN MARIJUANA AND TESTICULAR CANCER

A study funded in part by NIH and the National Cancer Institute found regular marijuana users could be at a higher risk of testicular cancer. Read more [here](#).