



Washington Poison Center Unveils Warning Symbol to Identify Adult Only Products

Symbol unveiled at Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board who will include the warning symbol in its draft rules to prevent child access to marijuana-infused edible products

SEATTLE, JULY 13, 2016 - The Washington Poison Center today unveiled its chosen warning symbol for identifying marijuana edible products at a Liquor and Cannabis Board meeting. The Washington Poison Center (WAPC) developed the warning symbol as a deterrent for children who may access edible marijuana products purchased by adults in their home.

"For over 60 years the Washington Poison Center has been a vital community resource providing free medical help and tools for parents to protect their families," said Carrie Ulvestad, WAPC's executive director. "We are excited to present the new Not for Kids warning label which was created with input from cannabis industry leaders and prevention professionals across the state."

"The number of calls to the Washington Poison Center related to marijuana exposures reached a single-year high in 2015 with 272 calls," said WAPC's clinical managing director, Dr. Alexander Garrard. "With more than 150 calls already this year, it is our hope that the Not for Kids label and our increased education efforts will equip parents and caregivers with the tools to have a conversation with their loved ones ages 1 to 21. Most importantly the label includes our 1-800-222-1222 emergency helpline number, a free, confidential resource for all ages."

The Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (Board) will include the warning symbol on all edible products in its draft rules. The Board is expected to file draft rules Aug. 10, 2016.

"This is a perfect example of the public and private sector working together toward a common goal of public safety," said WSLCB Chair Jane Rushford. "While this is the Poison Center's warning symbol, they have collaborated with the agency and solicited our input throughout the process. We think their design is excellent and their process thorough. Should the symbol become part of our permanent rules, this will be another important tool in preventing child access to marijuana."



Earlier this year, the WSLCB included a provision in draft marijuana rules that required the Mr. Yuk® symbol to be affixed to all edible marijuana products. The requirement was based on input at public hearings that a warning symbol was necessary to deter child access to marijuana edibles. The Board later dropped the requirement of using Mr. Yuk® while the Washington Poison Center developed its own symbol. With the new symbol finalized, the Board will move forward with the rule-making process which includes soliciting public comment.

Should the rules follow an expected timeline, the symbol will be required on the rules effective January 17, 2017. The Board would allow 90 days after adoption to give the industry time to comply.

For more information and to download the label image, visit www.wapc.org/notforkids

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About Washington Poison Center

The Washington Poison Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization, prevents harm from poisonings by being the primary resource for poison treatment, education and prevention. Reachable 24/7, the national poison hotline: 1-800-222-1222 will connect you to specially-trained nurses, pharmacists and poison specialists in your local area. Poison help is always free and confidential. Services are available for people with hearing difficulties and in 160 languages.

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