



TRANSFORMING TOXICOLOGY LANDSCAPE FOR SAFER AND SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

[ID-P#115] A puff of joy or maybe not?

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Background: Magic mushroom-flavour in vape has become trendy in recent years. Psilocybin is an active ingredient which has hallucinogenic effect and causes serotonin and sympathetic receptor stimulation.

Method: We report a case series of 11 patients presenting to the emergency department (ED) from August 2022 - May 2024 after inhaling magic mushroom-flavoured vape.

Result: All 11 cases involved males aged 15 to 35 years. Seven presented with nonspecific symptoms of seizures, abnormal behaviour, dizziness, vomiting, euphoria and presyncope. Only 1 patient had sympathomimetics toxidrome with negative bedside urine toxicology test. Their symptoms developed almost immediately after vaping. Non-contrasted brain computer tomography was normal for 5 patients with seizure. Only 2 patients' urine were tested positive for methamphetamine and cannabis. Diagnosis was established based on history of recent vaping, signs and symptoms of hallucinogen exposure and rapid recovery of symptoms. No samples were sent for laboratory confirmation of psilocybin serum or urine level due to its inavailability. All patients received supportive treatment and had complete recovery within 24 hours except for a patient who was admitted for substance-induced psychosis. Psilocybin as a classic psychedelic have a known association with seizures although data are limited¹. Usage of vape liquid containing psilocybin by adolescents should raise public health concern considering significant association between psilocybin use and major depressive episode among this age group². Psilocybin detection requires specialised laboratory test which leads to laborious workout and long ED stay for low-yielding blood investigation and imaging.

Conclusion: The increasing cases of magic mushroom-flavoured vape exposure should alert the authorities on vape regulation. This might be under-reported as teenagers refused to disclose detailed history and psilocybin is not easily detected by urine toxicology test.