
CANNABIS BEFORE SURGERY

Information About Cannabis Use Prior to Your Procedure

What if I am using cannabis for medical purposes?

It is routine for patients to be asked to discontinue prescribed medications before surgery. Cannabis is no different.

Is smoking cannabis safer than smoking cigarettes?

No. You are at risk of developing lung disease from smoking cannabis. Lung disease from either cannabis or cigarette smoking may increase Anesthesia related complications and could affect healing after surgery.

Further Questions?

Does Cannabis Use Increase My Anesthetic Risk?

This is a difficult question to answer. Anesthetic risk has many variables and it is often related to your unique medical issues and specific surgery. Individuals who use cannabis, do so in many ways, forms and amounts. Therefore, its effect on the body is difficult to predict when combined with a wide variety of Anesthetic agents and techniques.

Currently, we do not have enough evidence to say that cannabis **alone** will increase your Anesthetic risk **when stopped at an appropriate time**. Although it is recommended that you abstain from cannabis use **as long as possible** prior to your surgery, below is the minimum time you would be expected to stop before receiving an anesthetic.

Your attending Anesthesiologist has a legal obligation to provide you with the safest care possible during your surgery. On rare occasions there may be times where your surgery is delayed, postponed or canceled at their discretion.

Under **no** circumstances will you receive an anesthetic for non-emergency surgery if you are intoxicated.

Substance	Stop Time
CANNABIS (MARIJUANA)	
Smoked or Vaporized	12 hours before Surgery
Ingested	12 hours before Surgery
CANNABIDIOL (CBD Oil)	
Oral Dosing/Ingested	4 hours before Surgery