Safety Assessment Proposal on the Need to Increase THC Dosage of Edible Cannabis.

Introduction

Cannabis-based products have been used for centuries for their medicinal properties. In recent years, there has been a resurgence of interest in these products, as more and more people are looking for alternative treatments for various health conditions. One of the most popular forms of cannabis-based medicine is edible cannabis. Edible cannabis products are made by infusing cannabis into food or drink and can be taken in a variety of ways, depending on the product. Examples of such products include Strawberry Mango Sativa Sourz, Sour Gummy Variety Pack, Blaspberry gummies, Strawberry Lime Gummies amongst other edible cannabis products.

As the legal landscape surrounding cannabis continues to evolve and more states legalize the use of marijuana, there has been an increase in the availability of edible cannabis products as it offers discrete and convenient ways to consume cannabis. One of the most significant changes has been the increase in the THC dosage of these products, from 10mg to 25mg. THC is the main psychoactive compound in cannabis and is responsible for most of the plant's therapeutic effects. A higher THC dosage can provide patients with more relief from their symptoms, as well as increase their appetite and reduce their anxiety. While this increase comes with some associated risks, it also offers several health and financial benefits (Barrus et al 2016).

Risk of Increasing THC Dose from 10mg/pieces to 25mg/pieces

Notwithstanding that increasing the THC dosage also allows edible manufacturers to produce products with fewer cannabinoids, which reduces costs, there are also certain risks associated with increasing the THC dosage in edibles. These risks include increased anxiety and paranoia, as well as impaired motor skills and judgment. Further risks of an increase in the THC dosage include side effects such as anxiety and paranoia (Hammond, 2021). The risk of accidental ingestion and overdose is also closely attached to the increment in the THC dosage of cannabis, but these can be mitigated by proper labeling and education.

Mitigation of the Risks of increasing THC dose from 10mg/ to 25mg/pieces

Unequivocally, THC dosage in edible cannabis products is presently set at 10mg per serving. The proposal to increase the amount to 25mg is fraught with significant implications for public safety.

One of the main risks identified as accidental ingestion may be mitigated with child-resistant packaging especially as edible cannabis products are often sold in brightly colored packages that can be appealing to children. Under the current limit, many edible cannabis products are not required to have child-resistant packaging. If the THC limit was increased, child-resistant packaging would become mandatory for all edible cannabis products, helping to reduce the risk of accidental ingestion.

Also, proper labeling will be ensured to make obvious the dose of THC present in edibles, and education on the use and effect of such products will be raised in the society. Notably, by properly labeling these products and educating consumers about the risks involved, we can help mitigate some of the potential dangers associated with consuming high-THC edibles.

In addition to preventing accidental overconsumption, proper labeling can also help people make informed decisions about which products are right for them. Ultimately, by increasing transparency and education around THC-infused edibles, it can be assured that people are able to enjoy the benefits of these products without putting themselves at unnecessary risk.

It is important to note that thorough awareness through proper labeling and widespread education on the use and the impact of the various levels of THC present in an edible cannabis product will enable consumers and users to stay safe and be ensured that they are consuming a safe quantity that they have system tolerant for. The importance of proper labeling and THC-levels-awareness education is mainly traced to the fact that consumers deserve an understanding of the inherent and potential risks of cannabis edibles before consuming such products. The buying audience and cannabis product users should thus be enjoined to have sufficient knowledge of the impacts and effects of various THC dosages present in cannabis edible prior and take accurate precautions.

Additionally, the issue of full-panel testing is another risk plaguing the increment in the THC level of edible cannabis proposals. Cannabis products are not currently subject to the same level of testing as other food items, meaning that there could be unknown health risks associated with consuming them. In fact, only a limited number of edible

cannabis products are required to undergo full-panel testing (Health Canada 2015). This leaves some edible cannabis products on the market that have not been thoroughly tested for safety. If the THC limit was increased, all edible cannabis products would be required to undergo full-panel testing, ensuring that they are safe for consumption.

Any change to the THC content in edible cannabis products would need to be approved by Canadian laboratories. This type of testing is necessary to ensure that the product meets all quality and safety standards before it is released to the market. Canadian laboratories are well equipped to handle this type of testing and can provide the necessary approvals. This will ensure that the products meet all the safety and quality standards required by Health Canada. Increasing the THC level in edible cannabis products would require additional testing and approval from Canadian laboratories, which could add delays and additional costs. However, this type of testing is essential to ensuring the quality and safety of the product. Canadian laboratories are well equipped to handle this type of testing and can provide the necessary approvals. This will ensure that the products meet all the safety and quality standards required by Health Canada.

Benefits of Increasing the THC in Edible Cannabis Products.

Pertinent to note that higher THC levels have been shown to provide better pain relief for conditions like arthritis and migraines (Peng et al 2021). In addition, higher THC levels can also help to increase appetite and reduce nausea. For people who are undergoing cancer treatment or experiencing wasting syndrome, this can be a valuable

tool in maintaining their health. Additionally, increasing the THC levels of edibles cannabis provides a different experience than smoking or vaporizing marijuana without affecting the quality of the experience.

There is no question that edible cannabis products can offer a wide range of benefits to those who consume them.

From a financial perspective, increasing the THC dosage of these products can help increase their overall efficacy and thus make them more attractive to potential customers. Furthermore, the increase in the THC dosage from 10mg to 25mg allows people to get more value for their money, as they can get the same effects with a smaller amount of product. Similarly, it reduces the amount of product that is required to achieve the desired effect, which can save money in the long run (Barrus et al 2016).

In addition, it opens new market opportunities for growers and manufacturers who can now produce higher-potency products. This resultantly occurs because of increasing demands for cannabis to meet up with the new increase in the THC dosage of diverse edibles cannabis products. While this resultantly improves the net income of the growers, it simultaneously triggers a spiral growth in the gross domestic earnings of a cannabis-growing country.

Furthermore, where there is a global acceptance of an increase in THC level, automation of a surge in the foreign exchange earning of countries that export cannabis is activated because of the comparative advantage of naturally endowed exporting countries over countries with lower growing of cannabis.

In furtherance of the proposition to improve the level of THC contents of edible

cannabis products, it has been estimated that the legal cannabis industry will generate over $22 billion in revenue by 2025. Moreover, tax revenue from the sale of edible cannabis products can be used to fund various public initiatives, such as education and healthcare. Thus, increasing the THC dosage of edible cannabis products is a win-win situation for both individuals and society.

Notwithstanding that increasing the THC dosage also allows edible manufacturers to produce products with fewer cannabinoids, which reduces costs. The reduced cost of production concurrently increases the gross and taxable profits of manufacturing companies. There is thus a matching increase in the operating profits of manufacturing companies and a similar increase in the tax earnings or revenue of the federal, state, and local governments.

Conclusion

The proposition to increase the THC content of edible cannabis products from 10mg and 25mg has proven to own numerous benefits accruable to both the government, manufacturers of the products, and the users of edible cannabis. The identified benefits accruing to the government have been noted to include increased tax earnings and revenue for the government, as well as increased profits for manufacturers and users of such products.

Users of edible cannabis purportedly will also enjoy the improved health outcomes of consuming edible cannabis with higher THC contents. However, identified associated risks of the proposition include the possibility of more people developing cannabis

dependence and the danger of accidental injection. Proper labeling and THC awareness education have been noted to be methods of mitigating the identified risks. Overall, increasing the THC content of edible cannabis products from 10mg to 25mg would provide several benefits with only a small amount of risk.

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