Acute memory and psychotomimetic effects of cannabis and tobacco both

'joint' and individually: a placebo-controlled trial

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Methods

Participant Recruitment

Participants were recruited from the community through posters around universities of London and on online

notice boards.

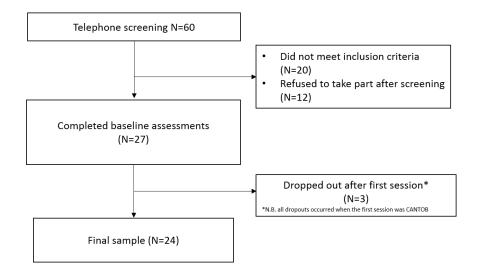
Smoking Procedure

The smoking procedure was standardised to control for dose titration and maximise absorption of THC (1).

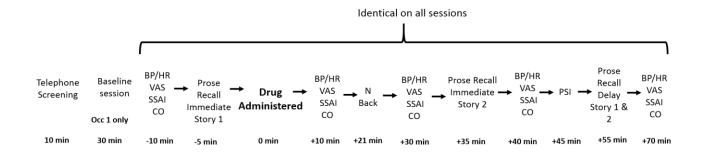
Participants were asked to inhale for 4 seconds, hold their breath for 8 seconds, and then exhale and break for

30 seconds. This sequence was repeated until the joint were smoked up to a designated line (Fig. 1). This

protocol was timed and enforced by the experimenter.



Supplementary Figure S1: Flowchart of participant recruitment. Participants were telephone screened, if inclusion was met, they completed the baseline and first session. 3 participants did not complete the first session and were replaced to meet the final sample of 24 as deemed appropriate from our a priori power calculation.



Supplementary Figure S2: Flowchart of Assessments. Other tasks that are not reported here were undertaken at the intervening time points. Drug administration timings can be seen in Suppl. Table S2. Post-drug timings are from the beginning of smoking onset. The following abbreviations are used - BP: Blood pressure, HR: Heart Rate, VAS: Visual Analogue Scales, SSAI: Short State Anxiety Inventory, CO: Carbon Monoxide, PSI: Psychotomimetic States Inventory.

Results

Drug History (Supplementary Table S1)

Supplementary Table S1: Drug use history (the number of participants varied if they had ever used that drug).

	Alcohol	Tobacco	Cannabis alone	Cannabis+	Cocaine	MDMA	
	(N=24)	(N=24)	(N=23)	Tobacco (N=24)	(N=17)	(N=18)	
Last used (days)	3.46 ±	96.125 ±	466.86 ±	7.92 ±	198.46 ±	295.44 ±	
	3.21	313.26	866.37	9.64	359.89	851.03	
Age of first use (years)	13.12 ±	15.71 ±	16.32 ± 5.41	16.16 ±	19.80 ±	19.05 ±	
	2.40	1.94		3.94	2.67	2.98	
Years used (years)	9.04 ±	6.76 ±	3.31 ± 4.16	6.79 ±	4.34 ±	5.50 ±	
	4.57	4.58		3.94	3.17	5.10	
Days per month	8.8 ± 5.48	11.04 ±	0.82 ± 2.09	7.75 ±	0.41 ±	0.13 ±	
		12.68		4.43	0.66	0.34	
Amount consumed*	5.88 ±	2.29 ±	-	36.58 ±	331.33 ±	298.75 ±	
	2.68	2.74		34.47	164.78	240.82	
Lifetime exposures	821.04 ±	2834 ±	49.18 ± 97.60	626.83 ±	34.65 ±	42.40 ±	
(days)	556.66	7202		935.51	61.57	63.92	
Exposures in the last 90	24.29 ±	29.75 ±	3.55 ± 6.39	19.58 ±	N/A	N/A	
days (days)	17.93	33.56		11.27			

Use of other drugs was minimal except for alcohol.

Notes: *For Amount consumed the units vary – Alcohol: units per session; Tobacco: cigarettes per day; Cannabis+Tobacco: Time to smoke an eighth (3.5g) (days); Cocaine: mg;

MDMA: mg. Cannabis alone is missing as participants would not smoke a standard 3.5g in this manner.

Time to smoke study joints (Supplementary Table S2)

There were no significant differences between drug conditions on time (minutes) to smoke the joint on each

day or number of puffs (see Supplementary Table S2).

Supplementary Table S2: Mean time (mins) to smoke the joint and number of puffs for each drug condition.

	PLACEBO	ТОВ	CAN	CAN-TOB	Test Statistic
Time to smoke joint (mins)	7.17 ± 1.76	7.95 ± 2.82	6.78 ± 1.17	7.33 ± 1.40	<i>F</i> _{3,56} =2.80, <i>p</i> =0.06
Puffs taken	6.96 ± 1.12	7.41 ± 1.41	7.08 ± 1.47	7.27 ± 1.30	F _{3,63} =0.80 <i>p</i> =0.50

Supplementary Table S3: Means (SEM) for Number of correct responses, Reaction Time (RT), D prime (d') and

Criterion (C) for each drug condition.

	PLACEBO			ТОВ			CAN			CAN-TOB		
	0 back	1 back	2 back	0 back	1 back	2 back	0 back	1 back	2 back	0 back	1 back	2 back
Number	47.92	43.63	39.83	47.54	44.75	42	45.83	42.08	36.21	47.83	43	37.54
Correct	(0.22)	(0.59)	(1.22)	(0.63)	(0.52)	(0.98)	(0.87)	(0.95)	(1.62)	(0.28)	(1.02)	(1.57)
RT	417.58	532.96	613.02	457.35	535.08	610.16	445.94	577.50	701.03	429.99	542.61	675.12
	(13.13)	(26.42)	(28.52)	(34.34)	(29.60)	(34.57)	(27.81)	(27.94)	(44.35)	(28.04)	(32.2)	(43.18)
ď	3.19	2.99	2.27	3.15	3.22	2.64	2.66	2.67	1.91	3.14	3.07	1.99
	(0.07)	(0.13)	(0.20)	(0.12)	(0.14)	(0.17)	(0.22)	(0.19)	(0.23)	(0.9)	(0.17)	(0.20)
С	0.51	-0.08	-0.04	0.52	-0.01	-0.11	0.52	-0.01	-0.02	0.44	-0.06	-0.08
	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)	(0.04)

References

1. Ramaekers JG, Kauert G, van Ruitenbeek P, Theunissen EL, Schneider E, Moeller MR (2006): Highpotency marijuana impairs executive function and inhibitory motor control. *Neuropsychopharmacology*. 31:2296-2303.