

## The Implications of the Use of Chemical Drugs “Industrial Cannabis” on Users from the Point of View of Workers in the Field of Addiction Treatment

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### Abstract

In light of the increasing prevalence and drugs abuse among Palestinian youth, especially chemical drugs “Synthetic cannabinoids” as indicated by recent Palestinian studies and official data. This study aimed at identifying the effects of chemical drugs on users from the point of view of workers the main results showed that it is the most abused among young people known by various names such as Hydro, Nice and Nice Guy. The reasons for its abuse and spread among young people are because of its accessibility, cheapness, use misconceptions, curiosity of its use and ignorance of its health social consciousness, psychological and mental risks. Also the most important psychological repercussions on the user is mental disorders that may reach the limit of schizophrenia, depression, frustration, boredom and tendency to commit suicide, as well as the mood swings and emotional unity and a sense of alienation and constant suspicion of those around him and aggression, which leads to many social problems with his relations, which may lead to divorce or separation and family cutting him out. On the health and mental level, the use of chemicals affects the respiratory system significantly due to toxic chemicals in the composition that enter the body of the user, which also affects the digestive and nervous system in addition to the emergence of hallucinations and delirium. Chemical drug users have many health consequences such as wasting, vision impairment, muscle spasms, loss of appetite and liver and kidney problems. Chemical drugs “industrial cannabis” are consider legally forbidden according to the Palestinian Law and in order to face this problem and its effects an outreach treatment and low enforcement should be implemented.

**Keywords:** Drug Abuse; Youth; Chemical Drugs; Palestine

### Introduction

Drug problem is considered one of the most dangerous problems on the security system of any country, and with the increasing and spreading of the drug phenomenon globally and regionally, it has become more challenging for all efforts being made in the field of control, awareness and treatment, especially in light of the emergence of chemical drugs that have become the most popular and abundant substance among young people in the Arab region. This is what the reports of some countries that referred to as artificial cannabis, industrial marijuana, or spice and joker have shown. They are all names for chemical drugs (industrial hemp). Palestine, like it's neighbours, from Arab countries in their suffering from the increasing spread of Drug use among Palestinian youths and this is according to a study by the Palestinian Ministry of Health, in cooperation with United Nations Program against Drugs and Crime in 2017 which indicated that in Palestine there are 26,500 thousand users. The reports of the General Administration of Narcotics Control showed that the number of cases increased annually. In (2017) [1] a statistic issued by the Drug Enforcement Administration showed that 1642 drug cases were seized and

most of them were about possession and use of Synthetic cannabinoids (chemical drugs), and in 2018 [2] the report indicated that (2132) drug cases where the vast majority of the trade is in processed cannabis and seizure cases including the presence of 238 drug dealers and (78) drug cultivation cases (cross marijuana nurseries). The beginning of the spread of chemical drugs with high promotion by the Israeli occupation, who pushed their promotion at the reverse barriers and in (C) areas that are not affiliated to the Palestinian Authority. The first confusion situation led to its rapid spread with its association with misconceptions. It was promoted as a substance that a person addicted to other drugs could quit through, it is also used in diet programs for those who pant after weight loss prescriptions and as an aphrodisiac, so we find that young people are the most vulnerable and are the victims of their promotion.

The Researchers working in the field of treatment and counseling with drug addicts indicated that, the majority of cases seeking counseling and treatment depend on chemical drugs and are called in slang language in the Palestinian territories (Hydro, Nice, Joker, Spice and Synthetic Marijuana).

### Research Problem

With the increasing number of drug users in the Palestinian society, especially on chemical drugs, and in the light of the limited intervention programs at the preventive and curative level, the problem of the study is to present the implications of chemical drugs use on the users from the point of view of workers in the field of addiction treatment. As a result, several questions were emerged:

- What are the types of drugs most abused among young people?
- What are the causes of widespread abuse among young people?
- What are the psychological repercussions of chemical drug on the user?
- What are the social implications of drug addiction on the user?
- What are the health implications of drug use on the user?
- What are the mental implications of drug use on the user?
- What are the legal implications of chemical drug use on the user?
- What are the methods of confrontation to reduce chemical drug use in Palestine?

### Importance of the study

In light of data received from workers in the field, addictions to chemical drugs are reflected in psychological, social, behavioral and mental problems that negatively affect their lives in the long run, and in the light of the limited scientific studies that deal with the abuse and addiction of manufactured cannabis, the study will highlight the implications of Chemical drug abuse (synthetic cannabinoids) on users from the point of view of workers in the field of addiction treatment. Thus, the study will direct workers in treatment and awareness programs to prepare special intervention programs that suit the needs of chemical drug addicts.

### Purpose of the Study

The study generally seeks to achieve a very important goal, which is to identify the effects of chemical drug use on users from the point of view of workers in the field.

## **Study tool**

### **Study sample**

(An intentional sample of workers in the field of treatment, education and counseling for addicts). The in-depth interview was used as a research tool. The subjects were a clinical psychologist working in the field of addiction treatment, director of the Legal Department of the Anti-Narcotics Department of the Palestinian Police, workers in the field of awareness, prevention treatment, four social workers and an addict’s physician.

### **Definitions of terms**

**Drugs:** Linguistically according to Al-Badineh ([3]: 74) as mentioned in the intermediate dictionary in the root (khdr) in the sense of numbness. It is said that the woman is drugged, that she is hidden and the drugging of the lion, i.e. the nakedness behold. Anesthetic is the inactivation of sensation and the change of feeling and perception.

**Drugs:** It is a natural or synthetic substance that affects the human body and changes its sense, behaviors, and some of its functions, forcing it to repeat the use of this substance. This results in what is called addiction, which represents a severe risk to physical and mental health and a harmful effect on the individual, family and society ([4]: p. 14).

As for the definition of the world drug report [5] issued by the United Nations Office for Drug Control and crime UNODC, the use of the word drugs is due to the substances subject to review under the international conventions to combat drugs.

**Synthetic drugs (chemical):** That are produced chemically in the laboratory by mixing them with absorbable herbs and the purpose of these drugs is to circumvent the laws and regulations by modifying chemical compositions slightly [6].

**Procedural definition of chemical drugs:** They are absorbable plants to which a mixture of chemicals is added to, such as petroleum materials, agricultural pesticides, insecticides and cleaning materials, and are wrapped tightly in sealed bags which are called in the language of the street by several names, as spice, nice, hydro, joker, flat people and chewers, by which their use affects cognition among the abuser and is considered as legally, socially and religiously prohibited.

**Abuse:** Is the illegal use of drugs in an irregular and non-periodic manner by the individuals in order to cause a change in the mood or mental state ([7]: 23).

**Procedural definition of abuse:** It is the individual’s consumption of chemical drugs in various ways, including smoking, in an irregular and intermittent manner that may depend on coincidences and events, which is the first stage of the stages of access to addiction.

**Workers in the field of addiction treatment:** They are the professional team consisting of a doctor, a psychologist, a psychotherapist, a social worker and a jurist, who is directly related to dealing and interfering with users and drug addicts.

### **Theoretical framework and previous studies**

Since ancient times, man has resorted using drugs, to reach pleasure and keep away from pain.

Man concentrated his use on plants as the source of drugs in its natural form by through he got acquainted to several types of drugs that bring him serenity, numbness and narcotic plants that may take him on a hallucination trip ([8]: 25) mentioned that the Islamic world knew drugs in 658 at the hands of a Sheikh from the Sufis called “Ali Haid”, he adds, “This does not mean that they were using them, but it means that they knew them and knew their secrets, but they did not analyze them. As the age of the technological revolution advanced,

man introduced some Chemical substances for narcotic plants to improve their effects and also made chemicals with mental psychoactive effects. Recently, the so-called industrial drugs appeared similar to cannabis. Drugs with all its different types from herbs such as anesthetic Hashish poppy or the manufactured as Isd were known by previous nation where most of them were used in the medical or spiritual (Armoush, 1993).

### **Types of drugs**

**In terms of source drugs were classified into three categories:**

1. Agricultural
2. Industrial
3. Agricultural origins that are mixed with chemicals (semi-synthetic).

In terms of affecting the nervous system are divided into

1. Depressants
2. Stimulants
3. Hallucinogens.

The UNODC (2016) [9] report focused on four types of drugs: cannabis, cocaine, opioid and industrial drugs in terms of production, smuggling and consumption at the global level.

Palestinian National Institute of Public Health study [10]: drug use in Palestine.

The study aimed at a quantitative survey of drug users between 2016 - 2017 and a survey of the services available for treatment and rehabilitation of drug users and the identification of existing gaps. In addition to the reasons behind the use of drugs. The study was conducted through using focus groups along with interviews with addicts and workers in addition to using a global questionnaire for addicts. The most prominent results of the study were to confirm the presence of 26,500 dangerous drug users in Palestine.

As for the reasons for using drugs for the first time, including curiosity, peer pressure, pleasure, forgetfulness, neglect of the family, difficult living conditions, unemployment, deception of the Israeli occupation in prisons, broken relations, school dropout and work at the Israeli territories. The types used include marijuana, hashish, chemical drugs, ecstasy pills, heroin and cocaine.

The study showed that young people are most vulnerable to drug use, especially those who drop out of school and who have a lot of free time and unemployed, as well as not providing special services for Palestinians that meet their needs. The most important recommendations of the study were to provide specialized treatment centers through the Palestinian Authority that meet the needs of drug users in Palestine, providing psychosocial and legal support services, raising awareness among school students, and providing recreational activities for children and youth that meet their needs.

Damiri, *et al.* [11] aimed to determine the demographic data of abusers and suspects who have been registered in drug control centers and to determine the materials used in abuse from the year 2010 - 2014 and the current patterns of abuse among Palestinians, in all governorates of the West Bank, by analyzing the data available in the files of the drug control centers from 2010 to 2014. The results of the

study showed that the number of drug users in the five years is 1945, among whom 79.9% of them were on hydro and marijuana, heroin, cocaine and ecstasy. The majority of them were unmarried and the proportion of married people were 42% and that 62.4% were among those who did not complete the stage of basic education and 28.2% of those who have completed high school and the majority of those were workers (who do not receive regular monthly salary) which has reached the number 81.5%.

Al-Rumaih [12] the study aimed to identify the drug phenomenon as a social problem, as well as the family’s role in protecting its children from the dangers of drugs problem. The study included the theoretical and analytical framework and touched several topics, most importantly are: social problems, deviation, the function of the family, drugs and their harmful effects on the family, and the causes that lead to their children’s addiction to drugs. This study found:

- The importance of the family side in drug prevention.
- The importance of family cohesion over social cohesion, since the ethical and behavioral disorders and imbalances within the family would produce imbalances and disturbances in the general community. Rather, poor adaptation and harmony within the family would cause misalignment among members of the same society.

Abdallah [13] assessed the needs of youth from the age of 11 - 19 years for drug education and prevention programs in Jerusalem.

The study aimed to identify the needs of young people aged (11 - 19) for an awareness program in the Jerusalem governorate and their familiarity with the drug issue in order to protect them from slipping and confront their dangers. The researcher used the case study method and applied the study through focus groups and a questionnaire in which 320 male and female students participated. The most prominent results of the study were that 93.1% stressed that educating adults about drugs is necessary, and 92.7% see that the family has an important role in educating children about drugs. 81.2% stressed the importance of the media in spreading awareness and indicated that 92.7% of the sample had a lack of knowledge and information about common concepts and terms related to drugs, and among the reasons for dealing with family problems and life pressures. The study recommended the importance of providing awareness and drug prevention programs for children and youth that are appropriate for their psychological and social development stages, especially in the areas that are highly targeted.

Abdullah [14] aimed to identify the extent of knowledge of high school students in the city of Jerusalem with drugs, as well as what are the sources of information for high school students about drugs in the city of Jerusalem by applying a questionnaire to the sample. The sample of the study reached (400) male and female students from the secondary stage in the city of Jerusalem. The most prominent results of the study were that 70% of school students do not know anything about drugs and the most prevalent types of drugs in East Jerusalem are hashish, cocaine and heroin and that the first party responsible for awareness against drugs is The family followed by the media.

Sadqi [15] aimed to shed light on the psychology of drug addiction, where we find that some mental disorders and personality traits can be seen as causes of drug addiction and abuse due to some psychological disorders. The study concluded that drug addiction leads to pathological delusions such as paranoia and mental disorder. The patient with drug abuse appears to have certain symptoms as illusions, delusions of grandeur, and pathological persecution significantly.

Almushref and Judi [16] aimed to identify the effects of abuse in terms of health, psychological, social and economic effects and the theories that explain these effects in addition to the reasons for social and psychological abuse as methods were presented for confrontation based on the results of the study which represented that the efforts made to combat drugs are great at all levels and that the approved policies did not succeed in reducing the phenomenon. The study confirmed the importance of work to be able to resist the temptations of drugs, peer pressure. The study recommended that the danger of drug addiction and its waste of money, energies, time, and destruction of the psychological, social and physical health requires finding strategies that are concerned with this in a deeper way. It is necessary to

focus on immunizing individuals early to protect them from a serious problem targeting young people using a comprehensive approach that focuses on the human psychological, physical, social and mental dimensions’ synergy of all efforts.

Palmar and Barat [17] aimed to identify the damages resulting from the use of industrial hemp and to compare them with the damages resulting from the use of natural marijuana, as well as to identify the reasons behind its use compared to the causes of marijuana use. To apply the study, the survey method was used. A national survey of high school students in the United States of senior citizens in secondary schools in the years 2011 - 2015. The results of the study showed that there was reported cases of poisoning because of industrial hemp in the city of New York (120) cases in the year 2015 and that it was more dangerous than natural hemp despite the low rate of abuse.

Access to self-reported emergency treatment rates indicated that hemp was much more dangerous than natural marijuana. As for the reasons of using artificial hemp, compared with using marijuana, they are because of circumventing the law and avoiding arrest and thus preserving jobs. In addition to its availability and low cost than marijuana. It was used to relieve psychological symptoms, curiosity and entertainment, which was the most common cause among elderly students. The use of artificial hemp was four times more than natural marijuana among older students. Therefore, the study recommended the necessity of conducting studies on the various population groups to determine the damages and the reasons behind their abuse.

In its theoretical framework, the current study touched on a group of Palestinian studies that reflected the drug phenomenon in Palestine in terms of types, causes and effects. But we did not find a single study that talked about the topic of industrial cannabis and its implications, so we can say that this study differs from previous studies in terms of focusing on industrial drugs “industrial hemp” and its implications for abuse on the health, psychological, social and legal levels. Most studies also showed that cannabis is the most used among young people, and this was confirmed by a study of the Palestinian National Institute of Public Health [10] that indicated the most commonly used drugs, as the survey showed are marijuana, hashish and chemical drugs. They used hydro (artificial hemp) and marijuana. Studies have shown that the reasons behind its abuse are circumvention of the law and also for psychological and social reasons. The effects of drug abuse are focused, as reported by studies, that they lead to psychological and social imbalances, poor adaptation and harmony within the family.

## **Results and Discussion**

The results of the study consisted of answering the following questions.

### **The first question: What are the types of drugs most abused among young people in Palestine?**

The answers of the majority of those interviewed working in the field of treatment and intervention with addicts showed that the most widely used types among young people are marijuana, Synthetic under the guise of Nice, Nice Gay, Hydro, Joker and Spice.

Cannabis came second in use, followed by ecstasy, tramal and crystal.

This is indicated by the Damiri study [11], the Palestinian Public Health Institute study [10] and Abdallah’s study [14] which also indicated that the most abused drug types among young people are hashish and heroin. Through researchers working in the field with addicts, the majority of cases that go to counseling and treatment are those who used hydro and gneiss (synthetic cannabinoids), marijuana and hashish.

### **The second question: What are the causes of widespread abuse among young people?**

All those interviewed agreed that license for the availability of chemical drugs, cheap drug prices, and easy access to them were the main reason for using them, in addition to the ignorance of their health, psychological, mental and social risks and misconceptions. Some

also attributed the reason for its spread to the social and political conditions that exist in Palestine as one of the reasons to escape from the lived reality with the presence of a policy of turning a blind eye from the colonizer towards the pursuit of promoters and merchants in the Palestinian areas not under the authority of the Palestinian security, which is the most targeted, except for the pressure of friends and their deceit, curiosity and love of experience.

A study of both Palamar and Barat [17] indicated that its cheapness and circumvention of the law are the most common reasons behind its use to relieve psychological symptoms and physical pain. Al-Mushref and Al-Jawadi study [16] indicated peer pressure, and this was confirmed by the study of the Palestinian National Institute of Public Health [10] that the reasons for drug use in the first time are curiosity, peer pressure and pleasure, forget about worries, neglect of family, difficult living conditions, unemployment and occupation, as for Alloush study [13] She emphasized that the reasons for abuse are due to family problems, life pressures and lack of knowledge among young people in addition to the previous reasons.

**The third question: What are the psychological repercussions of using chemical drugs on the user?**

The responses focused on the fact that the one who used chemical drugs suffers from delirium, hallucinations, severe mood swings, emotions, psychological disorders such as schizophrenia, depression, frustration, psychological alienation, fear, anxiety, pathological suspicions, unknown source of panic attacks and a tendency to suicide. Sadiqi study [15] indicated that drug addiction leads to illusions Like Parnoya and mental disorder. A scientific article on industrial cannabis and its effect by Debreon and Boisler [18] leads to psychological disorders including hallucinations, confusion, moodiness and anxiety and this was also confirmed by a study by the James Giffords Center for Porn V of the University of Vermont [6] that the effects of industrial marijuana such as spice substance leads to a change in the mood, perception, anxiety, paranoia, and hallucinations.

**The fourth question: What are the social repercussions of drug use on the user?**

The most prominent repercussions, as mentioned by the workers, were the strained relationship closest family and friends, many of whom had been subjected to disintegration, whether by divorce, separation, or change in social roles and neglect of their social role in their families and society, in addition to their avoidance of all family social activities. The most prominent reflection on the user and his family is the social stigma and its rejection by society. Al-Rumailah study [12] indicated that drug use affects the social structure of the family and causes misalignment between family members and society.

Since the use of artificial hemp leads to the emergence of a hallucination, leads to a feeling of insecurity and fear, which may lead to divorce and separation in the case of marriage. The majority of cases that researchers reviewed from the users of industrial hemp under the name of hydro and Nice suffered from family problems as a result of the situation of violence created by the industrial drug that leads to disturbing perception and vision, which may be connected to some cases of crime involvement.

**Fifth question: What are the health repercussions of chemical drug use on the user?**

Through clinical observations and reviews by workers in the field with users, showed that respiratory problems are the most prominent addition to the digestive and nervous system. The user suffers from shortness of breath, muscle spasms, vision disorders, heart problems, kidneys, liver, and muscular dystrophy and osteoporosis. Most of the studies that were reviewed confirmed that industrial cannabis has a bad effect on the health of the user. This corresponds with what the studies have touched upon. A study by the James Giffords Center for Research at the University of Vermont [6] indicated that cases admitted to hospitals and poison control centers were the result of artificial hemp abuse. They have reported vomiting, nausea, and a high heart rate, and may amount to a heart attack. This was also confirmed by Debreon and Boisler [18] where the clinical effects of the reviewers of the Texas Poison Center were drowsiness, lethargy, irregular



heartbeat, vomiting, nausea, agitation, irritability, high blood pressure, chest pain, dizziness, rheumatoid arthritis, pulmonary syndrome, acute cerebral infarction, and heart attack. The most common clinical observations observed are shortness of breath and muscle spasm so that the person becomes as though he has an epileptic condition.

**Sixth question: What are the mental repercussions of taking chemical drugs on the user?**

The majority of respondents emphasized that the brain is the most organ affected by chemical drugs, so that it affects the ability to focus and sensory perception of space, time, and distraction in ideas, confusion in reactions, low memory and performance, and the inability to analyze and link things together. This is confirmed by many studies and scientific articles that there are negative repercussions of industrial hemp on mental health that may leads to severe mental disorders that require psychiatric intervention and admission to mental and psychiatric clinic.

**Seventh question: What are the legal repercussions of drug use on the user?**

According to what the respondents indicated, and based on Palestinian Law No. 18 of 2015 concerning combating drugs with the amendment clauses, which have increased penalties, especially for promoters, farmers and manufacturers, the users of chemical narcotics are subject to legal prosecution like other illegal drugs.

The respondents pointed out the increase in crime and violence among drug users and on their families and other members of society. In the last three years, crimes of aggression have reached the point of killing in many Palestinian cities and villages.

Despite what the studies indicated that one of the reasons for drug use was circumvention of the law however; the laws in the Arab countries have criminalized and considered them as prohibited drugs and legally prosecuted based on the amendment of some provisions of Anti-Narcotics Law, as happened in Palestine, where an article was amended in the Drugs Law 18 of 2015 according to which no matter how different the processes of merging the materials differed and in creating an artificial hemp. According to the amended article immediately criminalized and considered illegal

**The eight question: What are the methods of confrontation to reduce drug use in Palestine?**

The respondents emphasized:

- The Coordination between all institutions working in the field of awareness and private and formal treatment.
- Increasing awareness and prevention programs against the dangers of drug use within a comprehensive national strategy.
- Supporting treatment and rehabilitation centers to help addicted young people recover.
- Activating and supporting the Palestinian anti-drug law to address trafficking, promoters and farmers.
- Activating the media through targeted programs and informative educational flashes.
- Finding programs to integrate the beneficiaries and their families with the aim of breaking the social stigma towards them.
- Providing psychological, social and economic empowerment of the families of those affected by drug use.
- Paying attention to the aftercare and vocational rehabilitation programs for those who recover from drugs.



- To face the scourge of drugs and industrial hemp, it is important to work with individuals and fortify them so that they are able to reject peer temptations and form rejectionist tendencies to experience any type of drug, regardless of the methods of seduction and temptation, and this is what was confirmed by the study of the Almushref and Jawadi [16]. A study by Aloush [13] indicated the necessity of providing awareness and drug prevention programs for children and young people appropriate for their psychological and social development stages.

In order to reduce the repercussions of industrial cannabis and its use, there is a need to spread awareness about its dangers and provide drug prevention programs for teenagers and adults.

**The study indicated that these are the most significant findings**

1. The most common drugs among young people are chemical drugs (hydro, Nice, joker, spice...) followed by cannabis, ecstasy, tramal and crystal.
2. The reasons for the widespread use of chemical drugs (Synthetic cannabinoids) are the circumvention of laws, the cheapness of their prices, ease of access, and ignorance of health, psychological, mental and social danger, and use misconceptions about their use, as was indicated by the political situation, especially with regard to areas not under the Palestinian Authority in addition to peers pressure and love of experience and curiosity.
3. Chemical drugs lead to psychological disorders such as hallucinations, confusion, moodiness, anxiety, depression, frustration, alienation, and suspicion, and some cases of schizophrenia, and some may even reach the level of committing suicide.
4. The use of chemical drugs (Synthetic cannabinoids) leads to a tension in the relationship of the user with the people closest to him and the occurrence of family disintegration, whether by divorce or separation and neglect of the social role. It also leads to ostracism and estrangement by society to the user and his family, as well as to crime commitment.
5. Chemical drug use has clear health implications for the user’s respiratory, digestive, and nervous systems, such as shortness of breath, feeling of suffocation and nausea, as well as muscle spasms, vision disorders, and problems in the heart, kidneys and liver.
6. Chemical drugs have mental effects on the ability to focus, perceptual awareness of space, time, dispersion, confusion in thoughts and reactions, and may reach severe mental disorders that require psychiatric intervention.
7. Despite the perception of chemical drug users of their ability to defraud the law, Palestinian law dealt with these kind drugs as punishable by law, since they lead to crimes and attacks that amount to severe physical abuse and killing.
8. The most prominent suggestions by the respondents’ as methods of confrontation and limiting the use of chemical drugs were:
  - a. Coordination between public institutions in the field of awareness and treatment through comprehensive national strategic prevention programs.  
  
Providing support for treatment and rehabilitation centers and activating Palestinian law to address drug manufacture and trade.
  - b. Activating the media through specialized programs.  
  
Providing aftercare and vocational rehabilitation programs for those recovering from drugs with their families.

## **Recommendations and Suggestions**

- The necessity of conducting in-depth scientific studies on the effects of artificial hemp on mental, psychological and physical health in order to build programs for intervention based on their outputs.
- Create a comprehensive national plan for prevention and treatment that focuses on awareness programs with new tools and programs that meet the needs of the target groups and treatment and aftercare programs to reduce the effects of industrial cannabis on users.
- Provide awareness and prevention through the media and mosques for young people about drug prevention of all kinds.
- The work of an Arab observatory that includes studies, research and data on the drug situation in the Arab region to develop an Arab protocol to reduce it.
- Carry out specialized activities as a scientific conference that discusses only the topic of industrial cannabis in all its aspects and its effects on the nervous, physical and respiratory system and on mental, mental and social health. Its most prominent output is a practical plan to limit the spread of abuse at the Arab youth level.
- Create an Arab protocol that allows the exchange of experiences at the national and official level between Arab countries to limit this deadly scourge.

## **Conclusion**

The study aimed to identify the repercussions of chemical drug abuse “Synthetic cannabinoids” on users from the point of view of workers in the field of addiction treatment, and this was done through in-depth interviews with subjects of workers in the field of treatment with drug users. The most prominent results of the study were that the chemical drug “Synthetic cannabinoids” is the most abused among young people and is known by various names such as hydro, joker, and Nice Guy... The reason for its use is a machine that can be obtained easily and cheaply, while confusing it with misconceptions about its use and ignorance. With its health, social, psychological and mental risks. And its psychological repercussions on the users of mental disorders, which may amount to schizophrenia, depression, frustration and a tendency to commit suicide. As for the social repercussions, they were marked by strained relations with his family, which resulted in divorce or separation, and his family estrangement. And its repercussions on mental and physical health are the most prominent of which are the effects of the respiratory system, as these chemicals contain toxic substances and the emergence of hallucinations, delirium that may require psychiatric intervention. As a result of its severe repercussions, it’s recommended to the necessity of having a national strategic plan for prevention, treatment and law enforcement to reduce them.

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