Cannabis and Workplace Drug Testing

"There is no or insufficient evidence to support ... a statistical association between cannabis use and ... occupational accidents or injuries."

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2017

http://www.nationalacademies.org/hmd/~/media/Files/Report%20Files/2017/Cannabis-Health-Effects/Cannabis-conclusions.pdf

Employees who test positive for marijuana in workplace drug tests are no more likely to be involved in occupational accidents as compared to those who test negative. "This study fell short of finding an association between marijuana use and involvement of workplace accidents. ... This study cannot be taken as definitive evidence of absence of an association between marijuana and work related accidents but the findings are compelling."

Marijuana use and workplace safety: An examination of urine drug tests, Journal of Addictive Diseases, 2014 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24467478

"[I]t is not clear that heavy cannabis users represent a meaningful job safety risk unless using before work or on the job; urine tests have poor validity and low sensitivity to detect employees who represent a safety risk; ... [and] urinalysis has not been shown to have a meaningful impact on job injury/accident rates."

Testing for cannabis in the workplace: a review of the evidence, Addiction, 2010 https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20402984

"The average rates of positive tests in pre-employment and random testing programs seem small enough to justify a decrease in the frequency of pre-employment and random testing for many industries. Ultimately, the use of drug tests should be related to the prevalence of drug use in a specific worksite in order to gain the greatest return on investment."

Drug Testing and Workplace Accidents by Paul Rountree, M.D. https://www.aiha.org/aihce04/handouts/rt227rountree1.pdf

"The evidence base for the effectiveness of testing in improving workplace safety is at best tenuous."

Accident Analysis & Prevention Volume 71, October 2014 https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0001457514001547