

MARIJUANA USE IN WOMEN OF REPRODUCTIVE AGE AND RECURRENT BACTERIAL VAGINOSIS: A Retrospective Chart Review

Victoria Vallejo¹, Weiwei Shan², John Ilagan³, and Gary Goldberg⁴

¹Northwell Health

²Northwell Health Feinstein Institutes for Medical Research

³Weill Cornell Medical College

⁴Affiliation not available

March 07, 2024

Abstract

Objective: To evaluate whether marijuana use in reproductive age women is associated with recurrent bacterial vaginosis. **Design:** Retrospective chart review. **Setting:** Ten underserved clinics in New York City, NY. **Population:** All women of reproductive age (15-45 years old) who presented with a complaint of vaginal discharge from January 1st- December 31st, 2019 and subsequently diagnosed with bacterial vaginosis. **Methods:** The cohort was divided based on whether they met criteria for recurrent bacterial vaginosis, defined as three or more separate positive vaginal cultures with *Gardnerella vaginalis* in a year. Descriptive statistics were used to compare both groups in terms of sociodemographic and medical history. Logistic regression analysis was used to estimate adjusted odds ratios with a 95% confidence interval (CI). **Main outcome measures:** Compare between marijuana users and non-users the odds of developing recurrent BV. **Results** Of 4,752 women who presented with a complaint of a vaginal discharge, 1,380 (29.04%) had bacterial vaginosis and of those, 5.8% met the criteria for recurrent bacterial vaginosis. Marijuana use had an adjusted odds ratio of 1.98 for recurrent bacterial vaginosis by multiple logistic regression analysis (95% CI [1.15- 3.34]). Non-Hispanic women had increased odds of developing recurrent bacterial vaginosis compared to Hispanic women (adjusted odds ratio 1.79; 95% CI [1.07- 2.92]). Conversely, increase in age was associated with a slightly decreased likelihood of developing recurrent bacterial vaginosis (adjusted odds ratio 0.95; 95% CI [0.92- 0.98]). **Conclusion** Reproductive age women who self-report the use of marijuana have twice the odds of developing recurrent BV.

Hosted file

manuscript BJOG.04.02.21.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/728352/articles/709518-marijuana-use-in-women-of-reproductive-age-and-recurrent-bacterial-vaginosis-a-retrospective-chart-review>

Hosted file

Tables.docx available at <https://authorea.com/users/728352/articles/709518-marijuana-use-in-women-of-reproductive-age-and-recurrent-bacterial-vaginosis-a-retrospective-chart-review>