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TITLE: Cannabis Use in College: Genetic Predispositions, Peers, and Activity Participation

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KEYWORDS: Cannabis, College Student, Polygenic Risk Score, Gene-by-Environment Interaction

ABSTRACT:
Among adult college students in the US, cannabis use is common and associated with considerable negative consequences to health, cognition, and academic functioning, underscoring the importance of identifying risk and protective factors. Cannabis use is influenced by genetic factors, but genetic risk is not determinative. Accordingly, it is critical to identify environments that reduce risk among those who are at elevated genetic risk. This study examined the impact of genetic risk, various forms of social activity participation, and peer deviance on recent cannabis use. Our aim was to test whether these environments moderate the influence of genetic risk on cannabis use.
Participants were from the Spit for Science study, a longitudinal study of genetic and environmental influences on substance use and emotional health outcomes in a diverse sample of college students. Generalized estimating equations with a logit link function were used to examine main effects and two-way interactions. Results and implications of findings to be discussed

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