

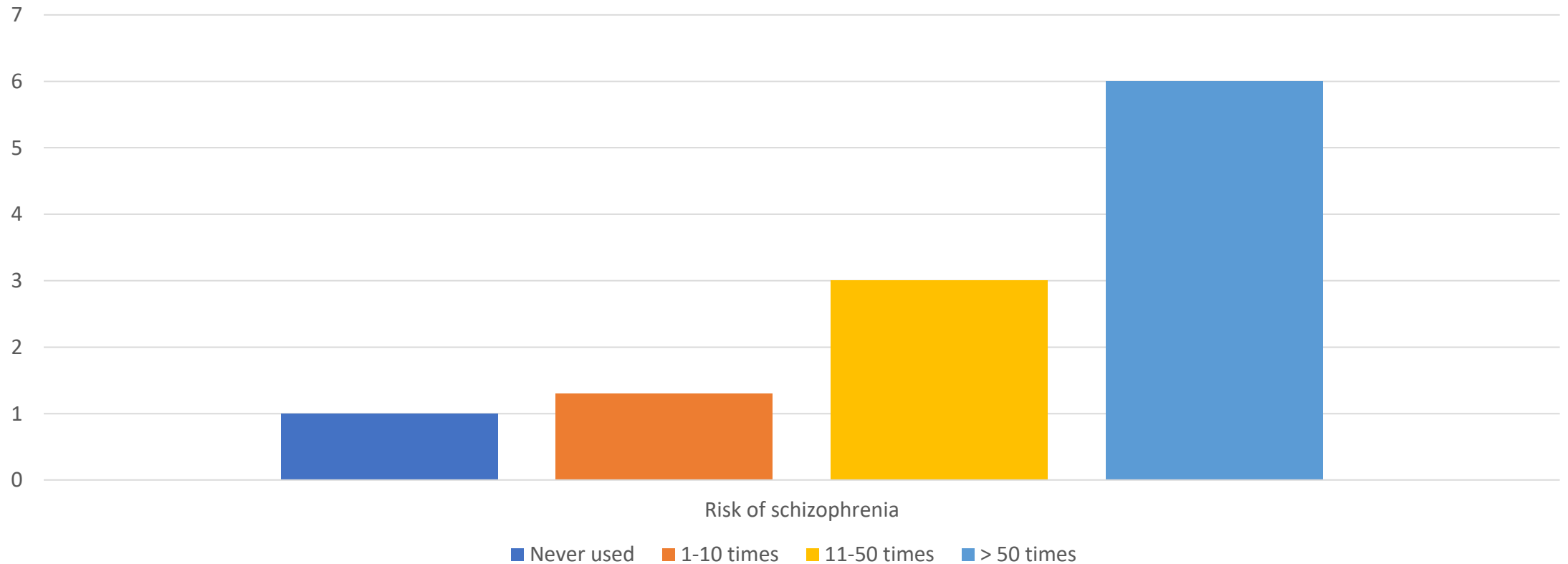
# Cannabis, Mental Illness, and Violence

A generation of evidence (from all over the world, in the world's  
best peer-reviewed medical journals)

# The first major study: Sweden, 1987

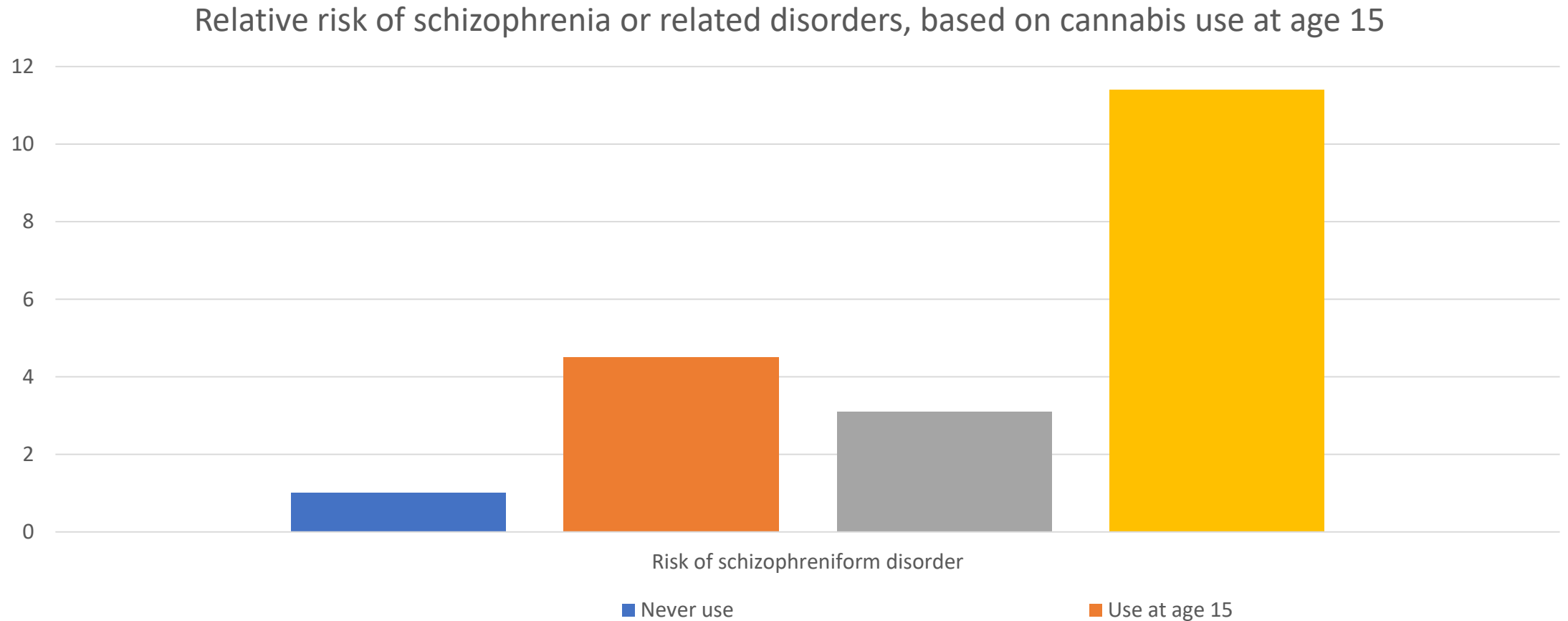
(CANNABIS AND SCHIZOPHRENIA: A longitudinal study of Swedish conscripts, Sven Andreasson et al, pg. 1483, The Lancet, Dec. 26, 1987)

Relative risk of schizophrenia, based on uses at time of conscription (~ age 18)



# Evidence mounts: Dunedin (NZ), 2002

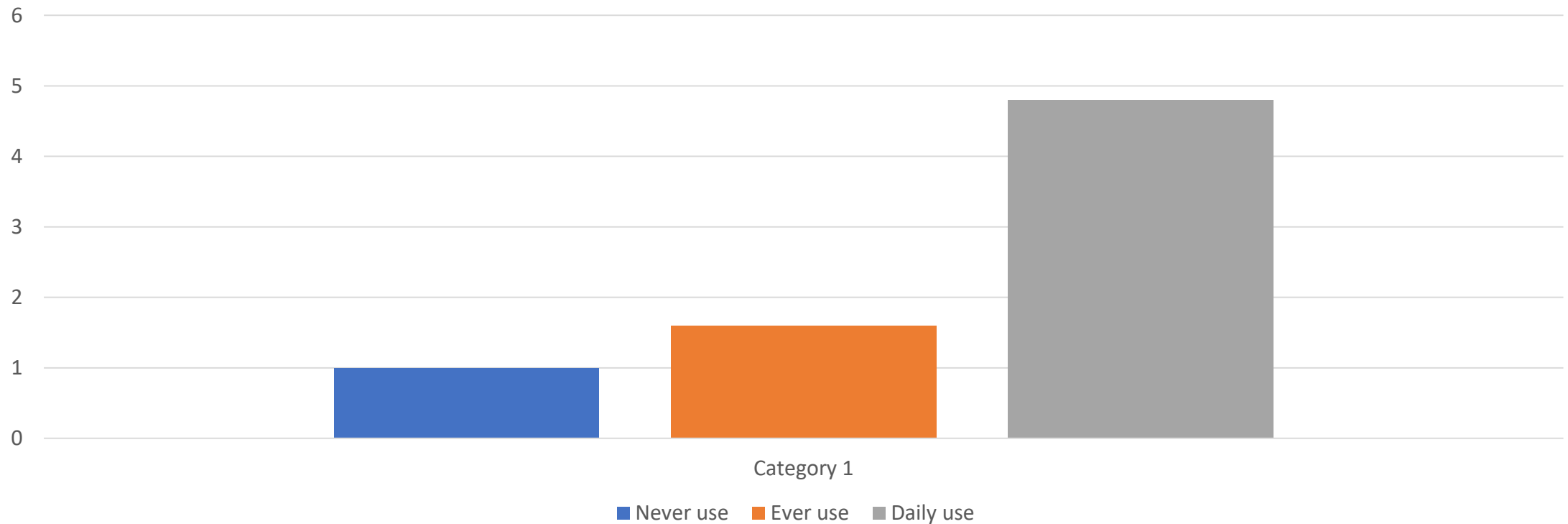
(Cannabis use in adolescence and risk for adult psychosis: longitudinal prospective study, Louise Arseneault et al, pg. 325, BMJ, Nov. 23, 2002)



# ...And mounts: Five European cities, 2019

(The contribution of cannabis use to variation in the incidence of psychotic disorder across Europe (EU-GEI): a multicentre case-control study, Marta Di Forti et al, pg. 427, Lancet Psychiatry, March 19, 2019)

Relative risk of psychotic disorders, based on use of >10% THC cannabis  
(after adjustments for other risk factors)



# Warnings from American public health authorities

The National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, 2017:  
Cannabis use is likely to increase the risk of developing schizophrenia and other psychoses; **the higher the use the greater the risk.**

The United States Surgeon General, 2019:

Higher doses of THC are more likely to produce anxiety, agitation, paranoia, and psychosis...

Marijuana use is also linked to risk for and early onset of psychotic disorders, such as schizophrenia.

# Evidence linking cannabis to violence is also rising...

## In people both with and without psychotic conditions

- Mental disorders and violence in a total birth cohort: results from the Dunedin Study. ([Arch Gen Psychiatry](#). 2000 Oct;57(10):979-86.),
- Cannabis use and violent behaviour: a psychiatric patients cohort study in Southern Italy (Riv Psichiatr 2013; 48(1): 43-50 43)
- Cannabis, a significant risk factor for violence in the early phase psychosis <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyt.2018.00294/full>
- Illicit drug use and violence in acute psychosis among acute adult admissions at a South African psychiatric hospital. Afri Health Sci 2018;18(1): 132-136. <https://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ahs.v18i1.17>
- Homicide during psychotic illness in New South Wales between 1993 and 2002 [https://www.mja.com.au/system/files/issues/186\\_06\\_190307/nie10805\\_fm.pdf](https://www.mja.com.au/system/files/issues/186_06_190307/nie10805_fm.pdf)
- Trends in rates of mental illness in homicide perpetrators The British Journal of Psychiatry (2011) 198, 485–489. doi: 10.1192/bjp.bp.110.085357
- The Relationship Between Marijuana Use and Intimate Partner Violence in a Nationally Representative, Longitudinal Sample J Interpers Violence . 2012 May ; 27(8): 1562–1578. doi:10.1177/0886260511425787
- Marijuana use is associated with intimate partner violence perpetration among men arrested for domestic violence <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5663469/>
- Race and Ethnicity, Substance Use, and Physical Aggression Among U.S. High School Students Journal of Interpersonal Violence 28(7) 1367 –1384
- Medical Marijuana and Crime: Substance Use and Criminal Behaviors in a Sample of Arrestees Journal of Drug Issues 2018, Vol. 48(2) 182 –204
- The role of marijuana in homicide <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/8144275>
- Prevalence of Past Year Assault among Inner-City ED Patients Ann Emerg Med. 2009 June ; 53(6): 814–23.e15. doi:10.1016/j.annemergmed.2009.01.016.
- Psychiatric Characteristics of Homicide Defendants (Am J Psychiatry 2013; 170:994–1002) (See table 1 - 32% of a sample of 270 homicide defendants in Pittsburgh had cannabis use disorder)
- Violent firearm-related conflicts among high-risk youth: An event-level and daily calendar analysis (PMID:28729199 PMCID:PMC5774663) [Preventive Medicine](#) [17 Jul 2017, 102:112-119]
- Psychiatric Correlates of Bullying in the United States: Findings from a National Sample Psychiatr Q (2010) 81:183–195 DOI 10.1007/s11126-010-9128-0
- Predictors of violence in young tourists: a comparative study of British, German and Spanish holidaymakers European Journal of Public Health, Vol. 18, No. 6, 569–574