

**Question for written answer E-015909/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Mireille D'Ornano (ENF)

Subject: Toxicity risks of flavoured liquids used in electronic cigarettes

In a study published on 8 December, US researchers from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) analysed around 50 marketed brands of flavoured liquid for e-cigarettes.

Their findings are beyond dispute. The liquids contain varying proportions of diacetyl, a substance responsible for popcorn workers contracting bronchitis obliterans, acetyl propionyl and acetoin. Only four samples tested contained none of these three hazardous chemical compounds.

Recital 47 of Directive 2014/40/EU of 3 April 2014 concerning tobacco products and related products provides that, '...the responsibility for adopting rules on flavours remains with the Member States [...] Any prohibition of such flavoured products would need to be justified and notification thereof submitted in accordance with Directive 98/34/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council'

1. Does the Commission agree that the findings of the above study reveal the existence of a real risk in connection with the mass marketing of these flavourings?
2. Does it intend to redefine existing standards in line with the actual risk?