**Electronic Cigarettes and Youth**

A significant number of youth are using electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes)\* , which provide a relatively new way to deliver the addictive substance nicotine without burning tobacco. The number of youth using e-cigarettes is alarming and raises serious concerns that e-cigarettes could be an entryway to nicotine addiction and use of regular cigarettes for some kids. While it is still an open scientific question whether e-cigarettes might be able to help adult smokers give up cigarettes, kids should not be using any tobacco product, including e-cigarettes. A 2016 report of the Surgeon General stated that “e-cigarette use among U.S. youth and young adults is now a major public health concern.” The Surgeon General noted that while we continue to learn more about e-cigarettes, “we currently know enough to take action to protect our nation’s young people from being harmed by these products.”

**Reference:** "E-Cigarette Use Among Youth And Young Adults: A Report Of The Surgeon General, 2016 | Surgeongeneral.Gov". *Surgeongeneral.gov*. N.p., 2017. Web.

https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0382.pdf

**Electronic Cigarettes: An Overview of Key Issues**

A significant number of adults and youth are using electronic cigarettes, which provide a relatively new way to deliver the addictive substance nicotine without burning tobacco. Many questions remain about the long-term health effects of these products for individual users and about the population-wide effects of these products. It is not clear whether these products will help people quit, discourage smokers from quitting completely, or lead to nicotine addiction and tobacco use for new users, including kids. A 2016report of the Surgeon General noted that gaps in scientific evidence do exist, and the products themselves as well as the patterns of use are changing quickly.1 However, the Surgeon General also found that “e-cigarette use among U.S. youth and young adults is now a major public health concern.” The Surgeon General noted that while we continue to learn more about e-cigarettes, “we currently know enough to take action to protect our nation’s young people from being harmed by these products.”

**Reference:** Zhu, Shu-Hong et al. "Four Hundred And Sixty Brands Of E-Cigarettes And Counting: Implications For Product Regulation". *Tobacco Control* 23.suppl 3 (2014): iii3-iii9. Web

https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0379.pdf