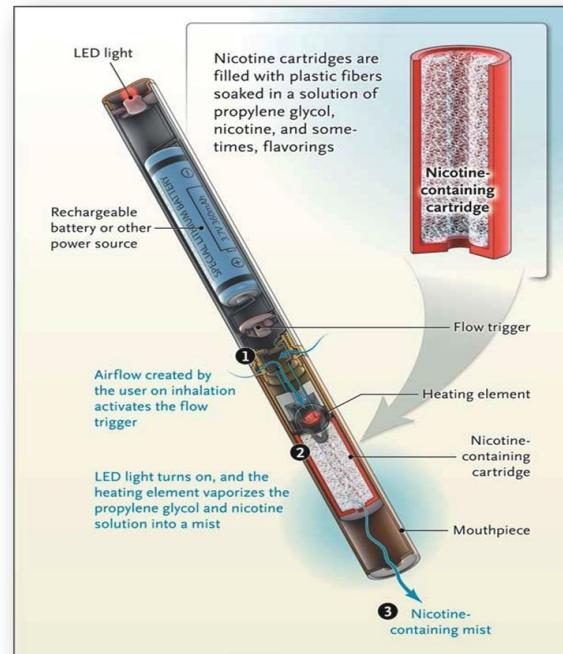


# E-cigarettes

- ◆ “E-cigarettes”—or electronic cigarettes—are devices that allow users to mimic the ritual of smoking a cigarette while inhaling nicotine. There is great variability between e-cigarettes in terms of how much nicotine is delivered and there appears to be little quality control over these products.
- ◆ New York has made great strides in reducing youth smoking rates. High school age youth smoking rates are down nearly 60% from 2000 to 2012. The introduction of e-cigarettes threatens the substantial gains made in reducing youth smoking in New York.



- ◆ Whether e-cigarettes have potential to be effective cessation devices or not, **the potential for population harm from these products is great.** E-cigarettes may serve as a gateway for youth to become addicted to nicotine and graduate to regular cigarette use, introducing a new generation of smokers to tobacco related disease and premature death.
- ◆ The long-term health effects of using electronic cigarettes are unknown; however, laboratory analyses do suggest that these products contain carcinogens and toxic chemicals to which users could be exposed.
- ◆ Any products designed to deliver more than trace amounts of nicotine can lead to addiction. As such, the sale and distribution of these products should only occur after these products are appropriately regulated by the FDA.
- ◆ The FDA has not approved e-cigarettes as smoking cessation devices. There are no well-controlled studies to date testing the efficacy of e-cigarettes as a smoking cessation device despite industry ads to the contrary.
- ◆ The FDA issued a statement suggesting that electronic cigarettes are a drug delivery device and has sought authority to regulate these products along with tobacco products and those used as tobacco cessation aids or as harm reduction products. This is pending.

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# E-cigarettes

- ◆ Under Governor Cuomo's administration, NYS now prohibits the sale of e-cigarettes to youth less than 18 years of age. This will ensure that youth are no longer able to purchase e-cigarettes, a nicotine delivery device that may be a gateway to lower-priced traditional cigarettes. By prohibiting the sale of e-cigarettes to minors, NYS is protecting vulnerable young consumers from products that have yet to undergo thorough clinical testing and toxicity analyses, and at the same time prevent first-time use.
- ◆ Concern about the lack of scientific data on e-cigarettes has caused a growing number of state and local governments to prohibit their use in various public places. The goal of such legislation is generally to 1) minimize the use of products that pose unknown health risks, and 2) prevent confusion in the enforcement of smoke-free laws caused by the perception that e-cigarettes smokers are actually smoking conventional cigarettes. (Example: New Jersey prohibits use of e-cigarettes in all enclosed indoor places of public access and workplaces (New Jersey Smoke-Free Air Act, P.L. 2009., Chapter. 182); New Hampshire prohibits use of e-cigarettes on the grounds of any public education facility (An Act Prohibiting the Sale of E-Cigarettes to Minors, Chap. 0113.)
- ◆ E-cigarettes are not regulated under New York State's Clean Indoor Air Act; businesses (or municipalities) faced with an e-cigarette issue should develop their own policies regarding if they will allow e-cigarette use, or not. There are model policies and ordinances that are available to support businesses and municipalities do this.



Sample E-cigarette starter-pack

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