



News Alert

Northeast Community Challenge Coalition

The Truth About Electronic Cigarettes

An electronic cigarette is an alternative to smoked tobacco products, such as cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. It is a battery-powered device that provides inhaled doses of nicotine by delivering a vaporized propylene glycol/ nicotine solution. In addition to nicotine delivery, this vapor also provides a flavor and physical sensation similar to that of inhaled tobacco smoke, while no tobacco, smoke, or combustion is actually involved in this operation. Electronic cigarettes are designed to resemble the outward appearance of real smoking products.

Electronic cigarettes come in kits containing a variety of flavors, with nicotine levels ranging from zero to 16 milligrams. The National Institutes of Health said regular cigarettes contain about 10 milligrams of nicotine.

“We are concerned about the potential for addiction and abuse of these products. We don’t want the public to perceive them as a safer alternative to cigarettes.” Rita Chapelle, FDA spokeswoman.

There is one more issue that troubles doctors. University of Miami pediatrician and lung specialist Michael Light, PhD, says underage users will get their hands on e-cigarettes--even if marketers like Youngblood refuse to sell them to minors.

“It will be easy for kids to get the product,” Light tells WebMD. “It could be a way to get kids into the nicotine habit to get them to smoke. It is a ploy.”

All sectors of the Coalition (see community wheel above) can play a role in educating teens and adults about the health risks of tobacco use.

Please forward this information to individuals and organizations within your respective community sector.

Electronic Cigarette Models

