

Vaporizers

Overview:

Vaporizers (also called vapes, e-cigarettes or electronic nicotine delivery systems) are battery-operated devices designed to deliver nicotine with flavorings and other chemicals to users in vapor instead of smoke. They can be manufactured to resemble traditional tobacco cigarettes, cigars or pipes, or even everyday items like pens or USB memory sticks; newer devices, such as those with fillable tanks, may look different. More than 250 different e-cigarette brands are currently on the market.



How do they work?

Most e-cigarettes consist of three different components, including: a cartridge, which holds a liquid solution containing varying amounts of nicotine, flavorings, and other chemicals a heating device (vaporizer) and a power source (usually a battery). In many e-cigarettes, puffing activates the battery-powered heating device, which vaporizes the liquid in the cartridge. The resulting aerosol or vapor is then inhaled (called "vaping").

Dangers of e-cigarettes :

Although they do not produce tobacco smoke, e-cigarettes still contain nicotine and other potentially harmful chemicals (such as formaldehyde and acetaldehyde.) Nicotine is a highly addictive drug, and recent research suggests nicotine exposure may also prime the brain to become addicted to other substances. E-Cigarettes are increasingly popular among adolescents. Their easy availability (online or mall kiosks), in addition to their wide array of cartridge flavors (such as gummy bears, cotton candy, and fruit flavors), may make them particularly appealing to this age group.

Potential for abuse:

Current e-cigarette use among middle and high school students tripled from 2013 to 2014, according to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control.) Teens that are now vaping have never smoked before. Youth are using e-cigs to inhale other drugs such as marijuana, dabs and cloud 9, along with prescription medicine. Vaping drugs can be so discrete that kids do it right in the classroom because there is no scent to the vapor.

Harmful effects:

High nicotine concentrations in e-cigarette liquid can be deadly. One teaspoon of e-liquid ingested can kill a 200 pound man. E-liquid on the skin can be absorbed through pores and make you violently ill.

Keep e-liquid away from small children and pets.

Because e-cigarettes are not currently marketed either as tobacco products or as devices having a therapeutic purpose, they are not regulated by the FDA.

Sources: www.drugabuse.gov

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/p0416-e-cigarette-use.html>



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