Hot Topics

**CDC, FDA Investigating Outbreak of Vaping-Related Lung Injuries**

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and state health departments have partnered to investigate an outbreak of serious lung injuries associated with e-cigarette use and vaping. As of 09/17/19, CDC reports 530 confirmed and possible cases of vaping-related lung disease across 38 states, along with 7 deaths. CDC, FDA, and state health departments are conducting a complex investigation to determine the cause of these lung injuries. Thus far, investigators have not identified a specific...
vaping product, chemical or ingredient that is causing these lung injuries. While the investigation is ongoing, CDC and FDA recommend that e-cigarette users consider not vaping. CDC and FDA also remind the public that youth, young adults, pregnant women, and nonsmokers should never use vaping products. CDC is regularly posting updated information on their [Outbreak Response Page](https://www.cdc.gov). FDA requests that the public report adverse health conditions related to tobacco or vaping products to the [Online Safety Portal](https://www.fda.gov). For more information, click [here](https://www.cdc.gov).

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**From the AAP Richmond Center**

**AAP Richmond Center Funding Opportunity in Pediatric Tobacco Control: Visiting Lectureship Grants**

The AAP Julius B. Richmond Center of Excellence is seeking applicants for the 2020 Visiting Lectureship Program. The Visiting Lectureship Program provides grants of up to $3,000 to support two-day, customized educational events that are focused on protecting children from tobacco smoke exposure and integrating tobacco control into medical organizations, health departments, and other settings. Full information is on our [website](https://www.aap.org). Applications are due November 1, 2019.

**2019 AAP National Conference & Exhibition – Register Now!**

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) invites you to the [2019 National Conference & Exhibition (NCE)](https://www.aap.org), held October 25 through 29 in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center and Hilton Riverside New Orleans. This year’s theme is “joie de vivre” - “joy of living.” Don’t miss the largest pediatric-focused educational and networking event of the year! [Register now](https://www.aap.org)!

**Tobacco Control Programs at NCE:** Be sure to block your calendar to attend programs offered by the AAP Section on Tobacco Control at this year’s NCE in New Orleans, including:

**AAP Section on Tobacco Control Program**

**Tobacco: The Unrecognized Health Disparity and Actionable Steps to Address It**

Session H3138 - Sunday, October 27
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, Room 238-239

This program will highlight tobacco as an unrecognized health disparity, perpetuating the cycle of poverty and disease in certain populations including minorities, children and people of low socioeconomic background. Three international experts will give presentations, and an interactive panel discussion with these experts will follow. Next, the winners of the Section on Tobacco Control’s annual call for Trainee Tobacco Champions will be highlighted, and the program will conclude with top abstract presentations and a poster session highlighting critical research and quality improvement programs to advance tobacco cessation efforts in health systems and communities.

**Agenda**

*Moderated by Rachel Boykan, MD, FAAP, Section Program Chair*

1:00 pm – Welcome (*Presented by Susan Walley, MD, CCTS, FAAP, Section Chair*)
1:10 pm – Highlighting Health Disparities: Menthol, African Americans and Smoking (*Presented by Phillip Gardiner, DrPH*)
1:55 pm – Update on E-cigarette and Vaping (*Presented by Sharon McGrath-Morrow, MD, MBA, FAAP*)
2:40 pm – Protecting Children from Addiction: Tobacco 21 (*Presented by Lester Hartman, MD, MPH, FAAP*)
3:25 pm – Break
3:30 pm – Tobacco Trainee Awards
3:40 pm – Panel Discussion Advocacy and You (*Paneled by Phillip Gardiner, DrPH; Lester Hartman, MD, MPH, FAAP; Sharon McGrath-Morrow, MD, MBA, FAAP*)
4:10 pm – Top Abstract Presentations
4:25 pm – Poster Session and Reception
5:00 pm – Adjourn

**Focused Topic Sessions**

**Adolescent Brain on Tobacco and Marijuana**

*Presented by Deepa Camenga, MD, FAAP*

Saturday, October 26, 5:00 pm – 5:45 pm (Session F2254)
In the News

FDA Sends Warning to Juul Labs for Claiming Vaping Products Are Safer Than Traditional Cigarettes
Earlier this month, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) sent a warning letter to Juul Labs for claiming their vaping products were a safe alternative to traditional cigarettes without approval from the agency. In the letter, the FDA said the company violated federal law by marketing their products as a safe alternative to cigarettes. The agency said it acted after reviewing testimony from a recent investigation by a House Oversight and Reform subcommittee of Juul’s marketing and promotion practices. Juul Labs has been ordered to correct the violations immediately or face tougher enforcement actions. The AAP Richmond Center provides a free factsheet for clinicians and families concerned about Juul products.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Commends the Trump Administration’s Plans to Ban Non-Tobacco Flavored E-Cigarettes
In a press statement, the AAP applauds “the Trump administration for announcing plans to pull flavored e-cigarettes from the market to help stop the youth vaping epidemic.” On September 11, President Trump, first lady Melania Trump, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, and acting FDA commissioner Dr Ned Sharpless announced that the FDA will develop guidelines to remove all flavored e-cigarette products, including mint and menthol, from the market. Dr Kyle Yasuda, AAP President, stated that the announcement “is a long overdue and needed step to prevent further endangerment and addiction of an entire generation of young people. FDA must now follow through on its promise without delay.” For additional information visit the AAP Richmond Center website and e-cigarette pages.

AAP and Partners Support Michigan Governor’s Emergency Action in Youth E-Cigarette Epidemic
On September 4, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced her decision to suspend the sales of all flavored e-cigarettes in the state. The American Academy of Pediatrics, along with other leading health groups, released a joint press statement supporting this critical step in addressing the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use. They call on the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to take strong regulatory action such as prohibiting the sale of the flavored products nationwide that have attracted “shocking numbers of our nation’s youth.” They state that the need for action is even more urgent in light of the recent outbreak of severe lung illnesses associated with e-cigarette use and the failure of the FDA to act. Read more.

Dr Sue Tanski Represents AAP at Meeting of Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health
On September 9, Dr. Sue Tanski of the AAP Julius B. Richmond Center of Excellence presented at the Interagency Committee on Smoking and Health (ICSH) meeting. ICSH provides guidance to the US Department of Health and Human Services on matters related to tobacco and related health effects. The September meeting’s focus was “Empowering Youth and Youth Influencers to Prevent the Use of Emerging Tobacco Products.” Dr Tanski’s testimony discussed the epidemic of youth e-cigarette use, the increasing reports of serious lung complications among young e-cigarette users, and the need for research and programs to support youth who are already addicted to nicotine and e-cigarettes.

1 in 3 Teens are Exposed to Secondhand Vapor from E-Cigarettes
An increasing amount of US middle school and high school students are breathing in secondhand e-cigarette vapor in public places, according to a new research letter published in JAMA Network Open. The researchers found that 1 in 3 students reported secondhand aerosol exposure from e-cigarettes in 2018 – a jump from 1 in 4 students reporting exposure between 2015 and 2017. The study was based on data from the National Youth
Tobacco Survey. Participants were asked how often they breathed smoke from someone who was smoking tobacco products and breathed vapor from someone using an e-cigarette in indoor (e.g., school building, store, restaurant, and sports arena) or outdoor (e.g., school grounds, parking lot, stadium, and park) public places in the past 30 days. Read more.

**Bloomberg Philanthropies Launches New $160 Million Program to End the Youth E-Cigarette Epidemic**

Bloomberg Philanthropies, the charitable foundation established by Michael Bloomberg, announced that it will partner with the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids on a new initiative aimed to end youth e-cigarette use. Over the next three years, $160 million will be dedicated to comprehensive efforts to encourage local, state and federal governments to ban flavored e-cigarettes; to encourage the Food and Drug Administration to be more aggressive in reviewing vaping products and imposing standards on e-cigarette products; and to support local and state governments that might face industry opposition or lawsuits for supporting e-cigarette bans. You can learn more about the new initiative at fightflavoredecigs.org. More information on alternative tobacco products is on the Richmond Center website.

**Over One Third of US Nonsmoking Youth are Exposed to Secondhand Smoke**

A Data Brief from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey found that in 2013-2016, more than one third (35.4%) of US nonsmoking youth aged 3-17 years were exposed to secondhand smoke (SHS) from tobacco, as measured by cotinine in the blood. As defined in the brief, SHS exposure comes from the inhalation of smoke from burning cigarettes, cigars, and pipes. The percentage of SHS exposure was highest among non-Hispanic black youth. The percentage of SHS exposure increased with the number of tobacco smokers living in their homes, and was about three times as high among youth living in a home with two smokers or more. Read more.

**Study Finds E-Cigarette Use Increases Risk of Relapse to Combustible Cigarette Use**

A recently published study, *E-Cigarette Use and Future Cigarette Initiation Among Never Smokers and Relapse Among Former Smokers in the PATH Study*, analyzed nationally representative data from the first two waves of the PATH study, looking at combustible cigarette use at 1-year follow-up for adult never smokers and distant former combustible cigarette smokers. The study found that former cigarette smokers who reported ever or current e-cigarette use at baseline were significantly more likely than those who never used e-cigarette to relapse combustible cigarette use at one-year follow-up. The authors conclude that “e-cigarette use precedes and predicts future combustible cigarette smoking” and that the use of e-cigarettes increases the risk of relapse to combustible cigarette use, particularly for young adults, recommending that “Policies and clinical counseling must consider the public health harm that these products place on nonsmokers, in addition to any potential harm-reduction benefits that might accrue to current combustible cigarette smokers.”

**Resources and Events**

**Operation Parent Webinar: Teens, E-Cigarettes and Vaping**

Tuesday, October 1, 2019
2:00-3:00pm ET

Operation Parent presents the webinar: Teens, E-Cigarettes and Vaping on Tuesday, October 1, 2019. According to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2018, one in five high school students and one in twenty middle school students currently use e-cigarettes. US Surgeon General Jerome M. Adams officially declared e-cigarette use among youth an “epidemic”. Pediatrician and former President of the Kentucky Chapter of The American Academy of Pediatrics, Dr. Patricia Purcell, will be presenting an update on current trends, recent actions taken by the US Food and Drug Administration to restrict access, and health risks youth and young adults are facing using e-cigarettes. Register now!

**Youth E-Cigarette Use Microlearning Videos from Tobacco Control Network (TCN) and US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

The Tobacco Control Network (TCN) has released two educational “microlearning” videos that feature introductory remarks by TCN Chair Luci Longoria, followed by an overview of youth e-cigarette use by Dr Brian King, Deputy Director for Research Translation with the CDC Office on Smoking and Health (OSH). The long form (11:04 minutes) and short-form (6:35 minutes) videos, aimed at public health practitioners, school administrators, educators, and other school-based stakeholders, present the same content in different levels of detail. Dr King reviews the prevalence, risks of youth e-cigarette use, and prevention strategies that can be
initiated at the community and state level. For additional information read the [Surgeon General's Advisory on E-cigarette Use Among Youth](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_info/advisories/2018/e-cigarette-use-among-youth/index.html), visit [TCN's resource tab](http://www.tobaccocontrolnetwork.org/resource SMA.html), and the AAP [Richmond Center website](http://richmondcenter.aap.org) and e-cigarette pages.

**New CDC Web Page: Menthol and Cigarettes**

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has launched a new web page focused on menthol and cigarettes. The page describes the health concerns related to menthol cigarettes, and the ways in which menthol contributes to tobacco-related health disparities. View the page [here](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/visualizations/menthol-cigarettes-visualizations/menthol-cigarettes-brief.html).

**The Million Hearts® Tobacco Cessation Change Package**

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released the Million Hearts® Tobacco Cessation Change Package, which serves as a quality improvement resource for medical settings looking to improve treatment delivery to tobacco users. The program focuses on integrating tobacco treatment services into standard patient care. View the change package [here](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/advisory/campaigns/million-hearts/cessation-change-package.htm).

**Registration is Open for the American Public Health Association’s Annual Meeting**

November 2-6, 2019
Philadelphia, PA

The American Public Health Association (APHA) 2019 Annual Meeting will be held at the at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia. This year's theme is "Creating the Healthiest Nation: For science. For action. For health." [Visit the APHA website](http://www.apha.org) for information on housing and registration.

**People in the News**

**Bryan Mih Makes News in Hawaii Discussing Recent Vaping Issues**

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Section on Tobacco Control Executive Committee Member Bryan Mih, MD, MPH, FAAP, and Officer of the AAP Hawaii Chapter, was interviewed by several local Hawaiian news outlets this past month to share his expertise on vaping and the recent uptake in vaping related-illnesses. He was interviewed by [Insights on PBS Hawaii](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/insights), [Hawaii News Now](http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com), and [KITV4 News](http://www.kitv.com). According to the Hawaii News Now article, Hawaii has the second highest rate of vaping among high school students in the nation, and leads the nation in the number of middle-school students who vape. In the article, Dr Mih asked that those who use e-cigarettes be mindful of certain symptoms, including "hard time breathing, chest pain, coughing, you can even have fever and chills as well as nausea, vomiting, and other gastrointestinal symptoms. And if you’ve used a vaping device or e-cigarette, let your doctor know." Read more about e-cigarettes and vaping on the AAP Richmond Center website.

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