

SAHMRI Transforming research into health

E-cigarettes: separating the science from the hype

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Background

- Currently an issue dividing the tobacco control community
- E-cigarettes have received rapid market penetration despite many unanswered questions
- Policy makers around the world are under pressure

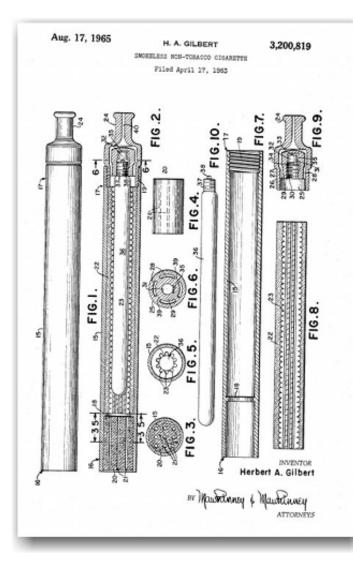


Overview

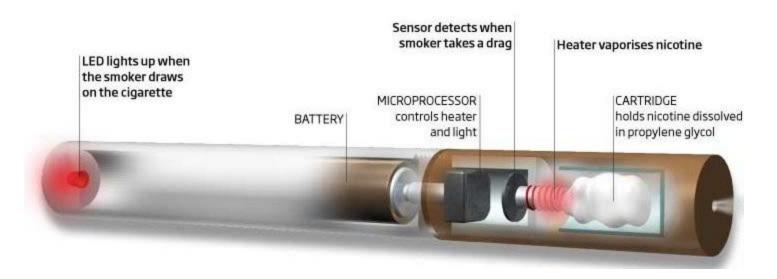
- What are e-cigarettes?
- Prevalence of use
- The hype: e-cigarette marketing
- The science
- Royal College of Physicians report
- What does all this mean for patients in Australia?



What are e-cigarettes?

















Fluids contain

- Many come premixed from China, but some are now made in the US and Europe
- Origins and quality of the ingredients are often unknown
- Fluids* may contain:
 - ✓ Nicotine (in varying concentrations)



- Humectants: propylene glycol (or vegetable glycerin) for vapor production
- ✓ Flavorings (tobacco, menthol, coffee, vanilla, fruit, cotton candy, etc.)
- *Metal particles have also been found in the fluids

Vapour

AEROSOL COMPOSITION

- Propylene glycol
- glycerin
- Flavorings (many)
- Nicotine
- NNN
- NNK
- NAB
- NAT
- Ethylbenzene
- Benzene
- P,m, xylene
- Toluene .
- Acetaldehyde ٠
- Formaldehyde
- Naphthalene
- Styrene
- Benzo(b)fluoranthene ٠

- Chlorobenzene
- Crotonaldehyde
- Propionaldehyde
- Benzaldehyde
- Valeric acid ٠
- Hexanal
- Fluorine •
- Anthracene
- Pyrene
- Acenaphthylene
- Acenapthene
- Fluoranthene
- Benz(a)anthracene
- Chrysene
- Retene
- Benzo(a)pyrene
- Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene

- Benzo(ghi)perylene
- Acetone
- Acrolein
- Silver
- Nickel
- Tin
- Sodium ٠
- Strontium
- Barium
- Aluminum
- Chromium
- Boron
- Copper
- Selenium
- Arsenic

- Cadmium
 - Silicon
 - Lithium
 - Lead
 - Magnesium
 - Manganese
 - Potassium
 - Titanium
 - Zinc
 - Zirconium
 - Calcium
 - Iron
 - Sulfur
 - Vanadium
 - Cobalt
 - Rhubidium

Compounds in yellow are from FDA 2012, Harmful and Potentially Harmful Substances – Established List

E-cigarette legislation

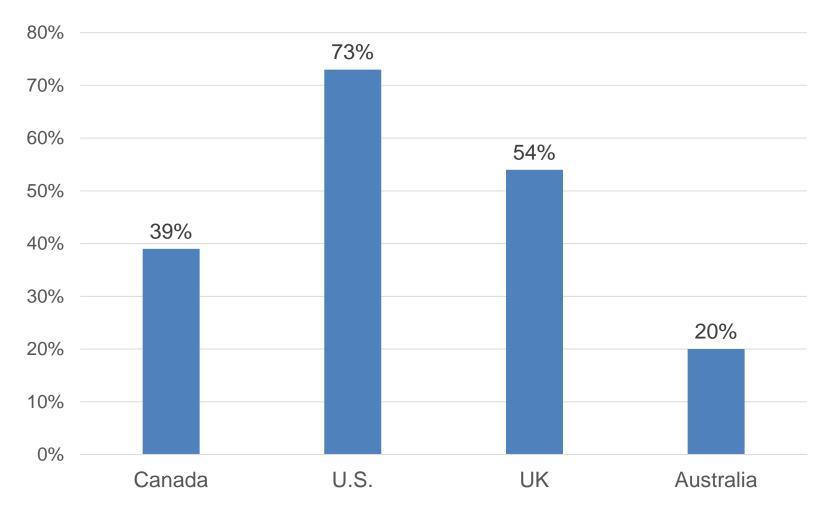
E-cigarette legislation

- The supply of e-cigarettes containing nicotine in Australia is illegal
- In Australia, generally, if devices look like cigarettes then they are treated as cigarettes, and the same rules with their marketing and use apply
- In the UK there are few restrictions on the marketing and sale of e-cigarettes
- E-cigarettes have been banned in Canada
- Greater awareness of e-cigarettes is apparent in countries where they are permitted

How prevalent are e-cigarettes?

Awareness of e-cigarettes

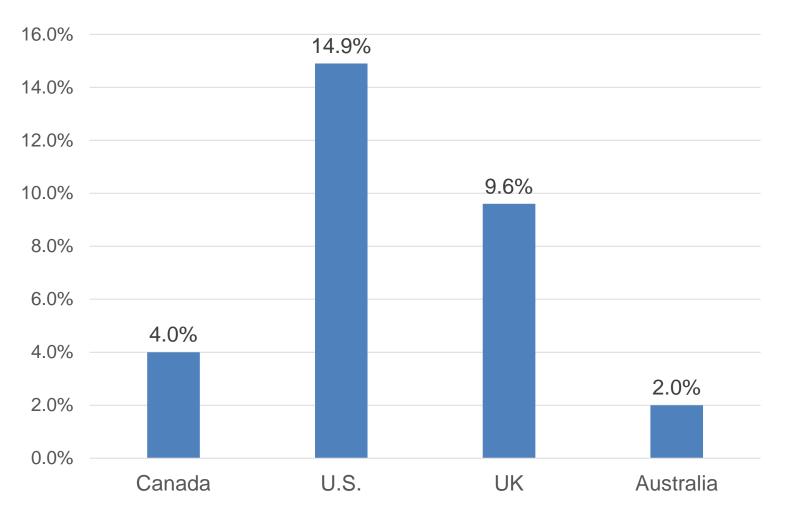
(among smokers and ex-smokers)



Source: Adkinson et al, Am J Prev Med 2013

Tried e-cigarettes

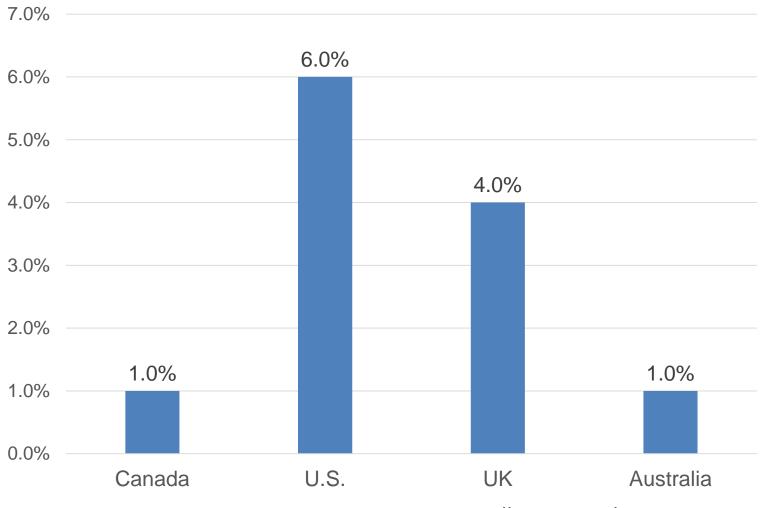
(among smokers and ex-smokers)



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Current users of e-cigarettes

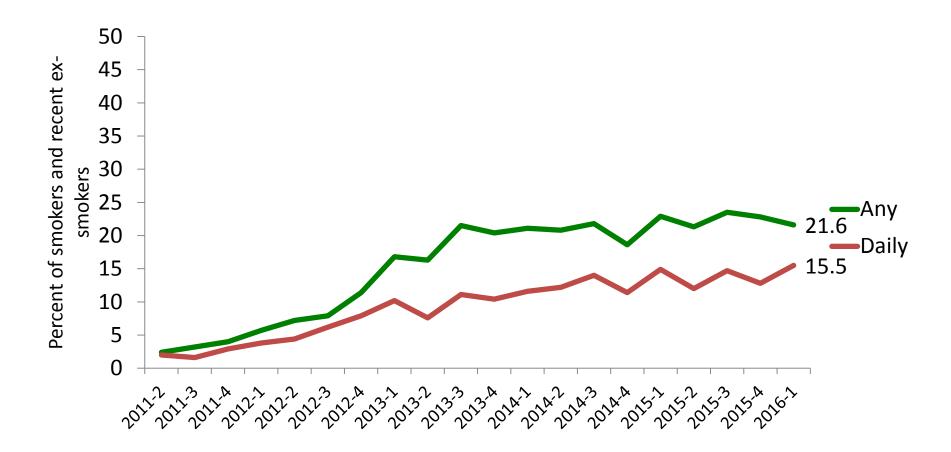
(among smokers and ex-smokers)



Source: Adkinson et al, Am J Prev Med 2013

Current user of e-cigarettes - UK

(among smokers and ex-smokers)



Source: www.smokinginengland.info/latest-statistics

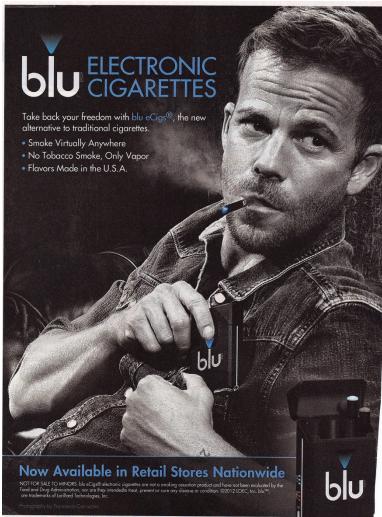
The hype: e-cigarette marketing

E-cigarette Marketing



E-cigarette Marketing



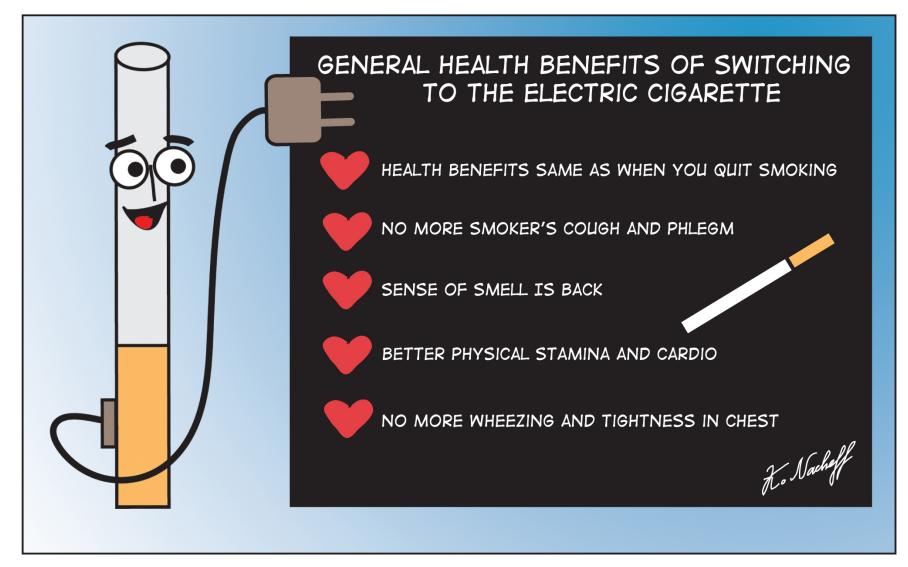


blucigs.com/store-locator/

E-cigarette Marketing



Marketing: Healthier choice



© 2009 K. Nacheff www.e-cigarettepedia.com

Marketing: avoid smoking bans



Marketing: avoid smoking bans



18+ only.

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65 Warning: This product contains nicotine, a chemical known to the state of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm.

Marketing: delay quitting



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Image: Porum Announcements

Image: Porum Announcemen

The science



1. E-cigarettes increase quitting

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• The efficacy of e-cigs as a cessation tool has not been fully established

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2. They are safer in the long-term

1. E-cigarettes increase quitting

• The efficacy of e-cigs as a cessation tool has not been fully established

2. They are safer in the long-term

• The health risk of long-term use is unknown although probably less than that of smoking cigarettes

Concerns currently being researched

- Dual use with conventional cigarettes which may result in smokers continuing to smoke rather than quit
- Gate-way for young people potential to induce nicotine addiction in non-smokers





 Safety: accidental poisoning of children as bottles are often not in child-proof packaging and are not accompanied by warnings





- Reports of tobacco companies purchasing e-cigarette companies
 - Raises concerns about promoting normalization of tobacco use





Tobacco industry involvement



Antonian Government



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Quitline

131 848

Royal College of Physicians report

released 28th April





Nicotine without smoke Tobacco harm reduction

A report by the Tobacco Advisory Group of the Royal College of Physicians

April 2016

Royal College of Physicians report, UK

- Pursuit of conventional tobacco control strategies encourages more smokers to quit
- Quitting is difficult as people are addicted to nicotine but are harmed by other constituents
- Not made to medicines standards, probably more hazardous than NRT (unlikely to exceed 5% of the harm caused by tobacco)
- "..in the interests of public health it is important to promote the use of e-cigarettes, NRT and other non-tobacco nicotine products as widely as possible as a substitute for smoking in the UK."

What does all this mean for patients in Australia?



How to respond to patients

- Support a smoker's quit attempt, we don't want to undermine motivation
- There are many options to assist people to quit and a range of approved aids such as nicotine patches & gum
- It is illegal to sell e-cigarettes that contain nicotine
- The efficacy as a cessation aid has not been established and the quality may be variable
- More research is needed on the health risks of e-cigs to quit smoking and for long term use
- Dual use of cigarettes and e-cigarettes should be strongly discouraged





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THANK YOU jacqueline.bowden@sahmri.com