



Position Statement on Vaping

Vaping (use of “electronic cigarette” devices) of both nicotine and cannabis products now has been associated with the rapid development of severe lung injury and deaths across the United States (<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2019/s-1010-vaping-injury-update.html>). Given the severity and unpredictability of this devastating public health threat, which has impacted both healthy youth without existing risk factors, as well as older adults who may be at risk, AAAP joins The American Medical Association (<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2019/s-1010-vaping-injury-update.html>) in supporting a broad public health recommendation to cease using all vaping devices until further state and federal investigations determine causality and can advise on which, if any, vaping devices may be considered safe for use by the public.

Additionally, AAAP supports more effective restrictions to prevent vaping product access to minors. Vaping is the newest, escalating form of adolescent nicotine addiction, and is associated with both future cigarette smoking and use of marijuana products. Vaping is occurring during school hours and thus affects classwork performance, and the long-term effects of vaping on the developing adolescent brain may be harmful. AAAP supports a prohibition on marketing to youth and a prohibition on all flavored vaping products, which appeal to adolescents experimenting with nicotine. For public educational resources on the dangers of vaping and youth prevention, please see the Centers for Disease Control facts page at https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html.