# Aerosolizing Nicotine Delivery Device (A.K.A. the Electronic Cigarette)

### A look at what we know and what we need to know



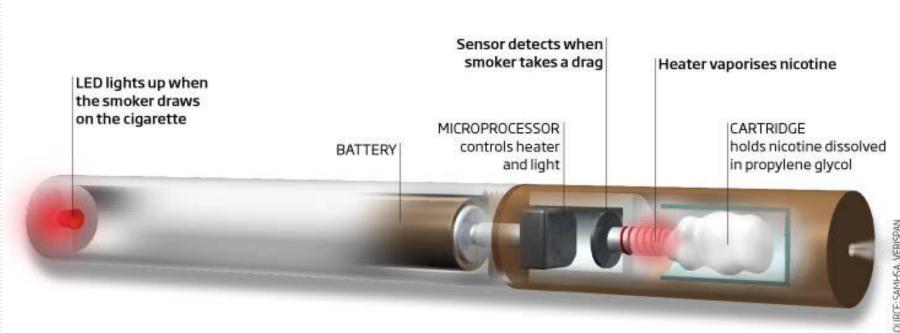
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# E-Cigarette

- Battery-operated nicotine delivery device
  - White segment contains a rechargeable battery
  - Dark colored body contains a vaporizing chamber
  - Near the mouthpiece a replaceable cartridge with nicotine-containing solvent (propylene glycol)



# Anatomy of E-Cigarette



# E-Cigarette Legal Status

- Tobacco Product or Drug Delivery Device?
  - FDA tried banning them as drug delivery device
  - Successfully appealed by e-cigarette co.

(Scottera, Inc. vs. FDA et al., 12/7/2010)

- The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act
- E-cigs can be sold in Maine
  - They are considered a tobacco product under Maine law
    - Cannot be sold via the internet unless they are delivered to a licensed tobacco retailer
    - Cannot be sold in mall kiosks
    - Cannot be sold to minors





# Starter Kits and Cartridges

- Starter kits (around \$70)
- 32 flavors: Menthol, Moroccan, Columbian, Classic, Original.....
- Each cartridge lasts about 250 to 300 drags (advertised as roughly = to pack of cigarettes) (no evidence)

| Flavor Chart                      |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Sweet<br>Spicy<br>Earthy<br>Woody |  |
|                                   |  |

### Price Reduction:

### easy access for youth

New to E-cigarettes? Overwhelmed by choices? Get off to a good start with a top rated Nebula starter kit!



Express kits just 7.95!



Deluxe kits only 29.95!

# Just the beginning of design...



# **Product Expansion**

### **E-cigars**





## "Good Vibrations"

- Blu is selling <u>special packs of cigarettes</u> that vibrate when they're within 50 feet of another pack
  - The goal is to make smoking even more social
- The packs can also be configured to exchange information and will vibrate when they're near a store that sells Blu products

http://www.businessinsider.com/idea-of-the-day-vibrating-cigarette-packstell-you-when-other-smokers-are-nearby-2011-5#ixzz1dQ3gB4jo

# Advertised Level of Nicotine

- 24 mg = Comparable to "non filters" (Designed for the very heavy smoker.)
- 18 mg = Comparable to "full flavored"
- 14 mg = Comparable to "mediums"
- 11 mg = Comparable to "lights"
- 6 mg = Comparable to "ultra-lights"
- 0 mg = Cartridges with flavor but contain no nicotine

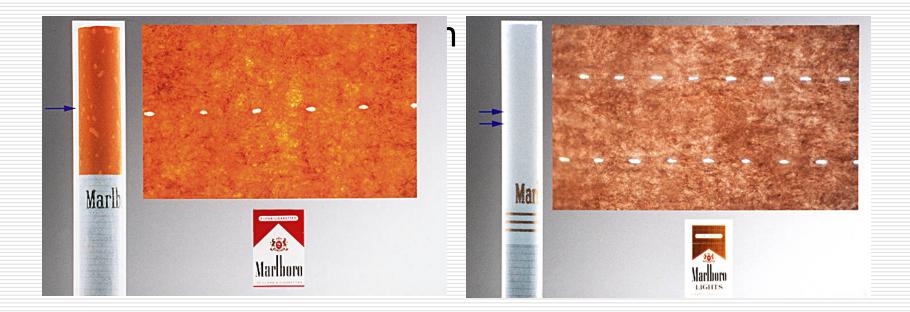
http://www.thesafecig.com/faq

# **Poll Question**

- Ultra-light and light cigarettes have been shown...
  - to deliver less nicotine than a regular cigarette
  - to deliver less CO and particulates and are less harmful
  - to offer no benefits regarding harm nor nicotine delivery

L T Kozlowski & R J O'Connor, 2002

### An EFFECTIVE MARKETING STRATEGY: "LIGHT" CIGARETTES



### an extra row of ventilation holes

Image courtesy of Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Center - Research Program / Dr. Richard D. Hurt

The Marlboro and Marlboro Lights logos are registered trademarks of Philip Morris USA.

### The E-cigarette in Context

- PREPS Potentially Reduced Exposure Products
  - Reduced exposure does not necessarily translate to reduced harm
- Vaping breathing in the nicotine vapors vs. burned tobacco

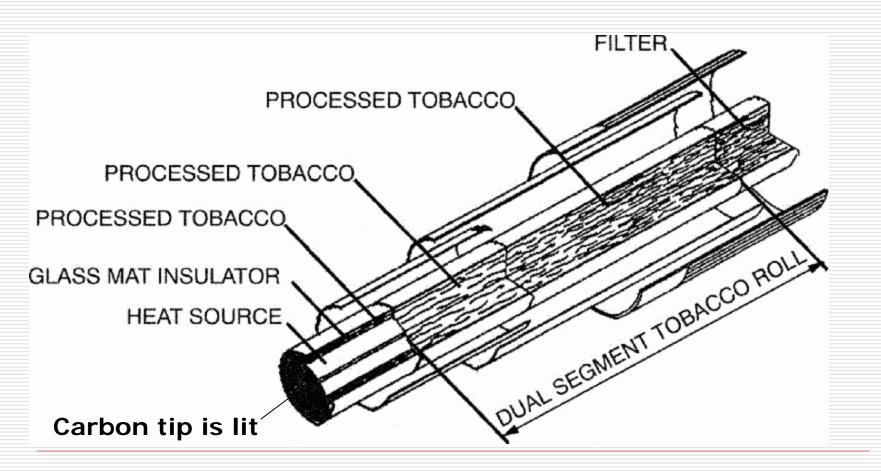


- They primarily heat tobacco, giving off a vapor, instead of burning it
- Carbon tip is lit
   Less tar and less secondhand smoke
- High levels of carbon monoxide and carcinogens



Fagerstrom et al., 2000 Slade et al., 2002

# **Eclipse Schematic**



Fagerstom et al., 2000



- Heats the tobacco (not burned)
  - Does this mean it is safer?



#### **Retails for \$500-\$600**



# NRT Inhaler

- Advanced Tobacco Products (1994)
- Originally marketed as alternative to cigarette (the "Favor Inhaler")
- Pulled from market by FDA as drug delivery device
- Tested, licensed and re-marketed as tobacco treatment medication (FDA approved 1996)





 Each cartridge delivers 4 mg of nicotine but only 2 mg is actually absorbed (similar to the amount of nicotine from 2 cigarettes).<sup>1</sup>

## Poll Question Safety of E-cigarette "smoke"

- No tobacco is burned: the vapor is harmless
- We don't know. There have been no definitive studies.
- Smoke is smoke. From a match or battery, the smoke is the same

# Safety Concerns

- FDA warning letter to five manufacturing companies (9/9/10)
  - Unsubstantiated claims
  - Poor manufacturing practices
  - Inclusion of unapproved drugs in some samples
    - Tadalafil (an erectile dysfunction drug)
    - Rimonabant (a weight loss drug)
    - Deficiencies in the "smoke juice" refill solution
- In one sample, the FDA detected diethylene glycol, a chemical used in antifreeze
- Nitrosamines also found in some samples

FDA Press Release, 9/9/10

http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm225224.htm

# Propylene glycol

- Used in theatrical smoke machines
- Used in many health and beauty products such as deodorant, hand sanitizers and massage oils
- Not tested: effect on humans of heating it to a vapor and inhaling it
  - Propylene glycol heated to 40-65 degrees centigrade (104-140 F)
- Some concern that users draw more heavily (stronger suction) on e-cigarette than typical cigarette
  - Effects of this unknown

# **Refill Solution - Nicotine**

Multiple suppliers

- Single bottle may contain as much as 1000 mg of nicotine
  - Toxic dose for children = 10 mg
  - Toxic dose for adults = 30 60 mg

(American Legacy Foundation Fact Sheet, 7/09)



Potential for non-nicotine use such as filling blank cartridge with cannabis oil

# **Poll Question:** Nicotine delivery

- The vapor is inhaled into the lungs, similar to a cigarette
- The nicotine is delivered through the mucosa of the mouth
- It is not yet clear how the e-cigarette delivers nicotine

## Nicotine Delivery?

Status of a neat theatre prop" (Foulds, 2010)

- Propylene glycol heated to 40-65 degrees centigrade
- Question how much nicotine is transferred via the vapor to the human body
  - □ Ineffective nicotine delivery device?
  - Variability device-to-device and even puffto-puff
- Vaporized nicotine molecule speculated to be too large to be absorbed efficiently

### Potentially powerful placebo effect

Vansickel et al., 2010 Cobb, N and Abrams, D, 2011

### Maine Tobacco HelpLine: Guidance

- The Maine Tobacco HelpLine cannot endorse the use of the E-cigarette due to lack of information regarding its safety as a substitute for traditional tobacco products and its efficacy as a means to quit tobacco products. Specifically:
  - The composition of chemicals and the effect of the chemicals in the e-cigarette is unknown
  - There is concern expressed by the FDA regarding the uniformity and safety of manufacturing practices
  - There is no clear standard as to how much nicotine is actually being delivered by the e-cigarette
  - There is no clear evidence as to whether the ecigarette helps a person quit other tobacco or can potentiate increased dependence on tobacco products

## Medication Voucher Program

- Use of the e-cigarette is a useexclusion for provision of NRT through HelpLine
  - Can not assess the amount of nicotine being delivered by the e-cigarette to be able to safely and/or effectively dose the amount of NRT

# Needed Research

- Non-clinical studies < Composition of refill liquids. < Composition of vapour. < Product quality, description of the diversity of products and product change over time.</p>
- Animal studies < Pharmacodynamics (PD), pharmacokinetics (PK), toxicokinetics. < Toxicology, carcinogenicity. < Effects of long-term exposure.
- Clinical studies < Deposition of droplets, exposure to nicotine, propylene glycol, flavours, etc. < PD, PK, toxicity, carcinogenicity, infectivity. < Addictive potential, abuse liability, risks of nicotine refill bottles. < Puff topography, dosage, duration, reasons for use, brand switching. < Optimal dosage, dosing regimen, effect of user experience with the device. < Effect on tobacco withdrawal symptoms, adverse effects. < Efficacy for smoking behaviour (cessation and reduction), comparison with nicotine replacement therapy (NRT).< Efficacy for administering other medications.</p>
- Public health studies < Prevalence of use in population subgroups. < Utilisation patterns (long-term use), preferred brands, satisfaction of users. < Use to administer illicit drugs or medications. < Surveillance, pharmacovigilance, sales data. < Effects of exhaled ('secondhand') vapour. Fewer fires and burns due to less smoking? < Effect of good manufacturing practice on the quality of products. < Economic studies, cost effectiveness, impact on healthcare costs. < Impact on prevalences of quit attempts, quit rates and smoking in the population.

# Questions



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