The Dangers of Vaping

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND RECENT CASES SHOW SEVERE LUNG ILLNESSES OR VAPING-ASSOCIATED PULMONARY INJURIES (VAPI) ARE LINKED TO E-CIGARETTE USE.

Electronic cigarettes and other vape devices are devices that deliver an aerosol to the user through inhalation by heating a liquid that usually contains nicotine, flavorings, and other substances (e.g., marijuana).

Complications during Hospitalization

Approximately 50% of Los Angeles County patients who were hospitalized for VAPI required mechanical ventilation.

Symptoms

Patients with VAPI injuries have experienced the following symptoms:

Respiratory
- Cough
- Hemoptyisis (coughing up blood)
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain

Gastrointestinal
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain

Constitutional
- Fatigue or malaise
- Fever
- Weight loss
- Chills

Compounds/Additives Found in VAPI Cases

Includes, but not limited to:
- Nicotine
- Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)
- Cannabinoids (CBD)
- Synthetic cannabinoids
- Flavorings and other substances

Ongoing Epidemiologic Investigations

The etiology of VAPI is undetermined and current epidemiologic investigations involve:
- Identification of harmful aspects of e-cigarette use
- Understanding the underlying mechanisms and causes

Among LA County High School Students

Nearly 2 in 3 cases reported in Los Angeles County are ages 25 and younger.3

1 in 10 are current e-cigarette users

56% Rate of increase among e-cigarette users between 2015-16 to 2017-18.

15% Rate of current marijuana use—higher than any tobacco products.

Sources:
3 California Department of Public Health, http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/docs/Vaping/AZr.pdf