## PATIENT EDUCATION | INFORMATION SERIES

## ATS Health Alert—

## EVALI—E-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury

INTENSIVE

Using electronic cigarettes, also called vaping or juuling, can be dangerous. There are many risks associated with vaping, regardless of which vaping device or e-liquid you use. There are many different nicotine, THC and CBD solutions of various concentrations, plus added chemicals and/or flavors, and none have been established as safe to bring into your lungs. This fact sheet reviews information about EVALI—vaping related lung injuries).



Recently, healthcare providers have seen a growing number of health concerns associated with vaping, including very serious lung problems. These problems also have been called "Vaping Associated Pulmonary Illness (VAPI)" or Vape Lung. In 2019, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) investigated and reported on hundreds of cases of EVALI across over 30 states. Some people have died from EVALI, while others have become very sick, and required treatment in the intensive care unit (ICU) to recover. EVALI has been reported with use of nicotine, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and cannabidiol (CBD) products. Yet, the cause of vape lung is still not known and is being actively investigated.

Symptoms of Vape Lung include:

- Shortness of Breath
- Fever
- Cough
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Headache
- Dizziness
- Chest pain

If you vape and have any of these symptoms contact your healthcare provider.



- Avoid use of electronic (e)-cigarettes
- Always keep all e-cigarette devices, including concentrated nicotine, THC and CBC solutions out of reach of children
- If you are trying to stop smoking or vaping, talk with your healthcare provider about safe and effective medicines to treat nicotine addiction and to help you to feel comfortable when not smoking/vaping or using tobacco
- For additional help in stopping smoking or vaping, join a local support group, call QUITNOW or visit the Truth Initiative Website at https:// truthinitiative.org/research-resources/quittingsmoking-vaping/quitting-e-cigarettes

Authors: W. Graham Carlos, MD, Laura E. Crotty Alexander, MD, Jane E. Gross MD, PhD, Charles S. Dela Cruz MD, PhD, Jonathan M Keller, MD, Susan Pasnick MD, Shazia Jamil MD

**Reviewers:** Marianna Sockrider MD, DrPH, Frank Leone, MD, Michelle Eakin, PhD, and Hasmeena Kathuria, MD

