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Background

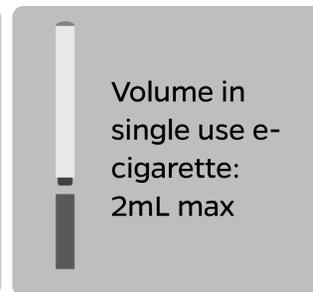
- E-liquid commonly contains nicotine, an addictive agent delivered to the user via the inhaled aerosol
- The concentration of nicotine in e-cigarette cartridges typically ranges from 6-24mg/mL, however it can be much higher. Moreover, e-cigarette packaging has been shown to misrepresent nicotine content
- The current study sought to assess strategies that countries across the globe are taking to regulate nicotine in e-cigarettes and e-liquids

Methods

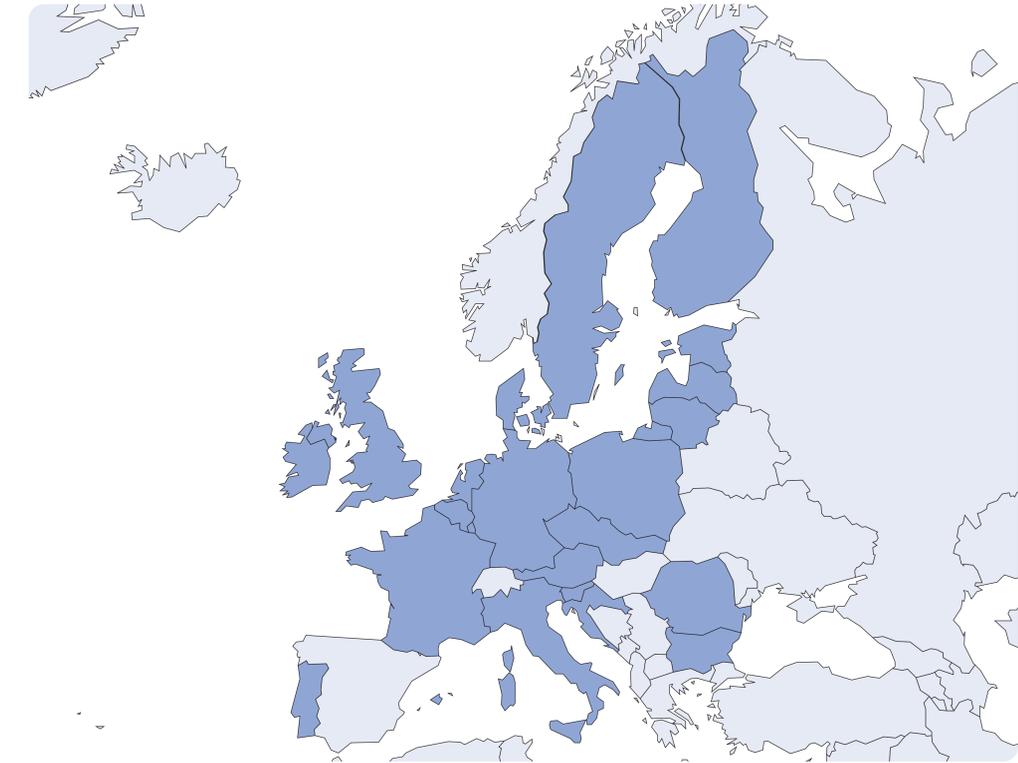
- National policies regulating e-cigarettes were identified primarily through direct contact with representatives of Ministries of Health or tobacco control experts in approximately 130 countries
- Media monitoring was also used to identify emerging or new e-cigarette product regulation or legislation
- Copies of written policies were reviewed and policies related to levels and concentration of nicotine were summarized
- Data were verified by in-country experts

Results

- The policy search identified 83 countries that had a policy that is being applied to regulate e-cigarettes as of October 2017
- Twenty-eight countries regulate the amount of nicotine in e-liquids and single use e-cigarettes including the concentration and volume of nicotine
- All of these countries were in the European Union (EU), applying the EU Tobacco Products Directive



EU Tobacco Products Directive requirements for nicotine level and concentration in e-cigarettes and refill containers



Conclusions

- There are currently no countries outside of the EU regulating e-cigarette nicotine concentration at the national level
- Understanding approaches to product regulation including limiting nicotine is a necessary first step to assessing the impact of policies on public health

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