

Association Between Cooling Descriptors and Device/Liquid Combinations Among Adults Who Frequently Use ENDS

Significance

Electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) with cooling agents are concerning due to their youth appeal, but policy changes could affect adults who vape. Understanding the prevalence of cooling descriptors (e.g., ice) among the most used device/liquid combinations by adults can inform regulators.

Methods

- Data from 899 adults (21+) who frequently use ENDS (5+ days/week) were analyzed from Wave 5 (2023) of the VAPER Study
- Cooling descriptors and device/liquid combinations were assessed using photos and self-reported data
- The top device/liquid combinations were:
 - disposable-nonadjustable-salt (34.8%)
 - tank-adjustable-freebase (26.0%)
 - refillable pod-adjustable-salt (15.5%)
 - refillable pod-adjustable-freebase (13.0%)
 - disposable pod-nonadjustable-salt (10.7%)
- Descriptive weighted statistics were used

Cooling descriptors are more commonly found in ENDS devices that contain salt-based nicotine formulations



Results

- Overall, 33.4% (n=321) of participants used liquids with a cooling descriptor
- Differences were observed in the prevalence of cooling descriptors across device/liquid combinations (p<0.001)
- Cooling descriptors were more prevalent among disposable pod-nonadjustable-salt (58.8%, n=61), disposable-nonadjustable-salt (47.4%, n=170), and refillable pod-adjustable-salt (36.4%, n=49) groups
- Tank-adjustable-freebase (13.4%, n=28) and refillable pod-adjustable-freebase (11.9%, n=13) had lower prevalence of cooling descriptors

Conclusion

Cooling descriptors are more commonly found in ENDS devices that contain salt-based nicotine formulations. Policies targeting cooling agents may differentially impact segments of the ENDS market and adults that prefer nicotine salt-based liquids.

Authors

Jeffrey J. Hardesty, Elizabeth Crespi, Qinghua Nian, Joanna Cohen




 Learn more about the
*Vaping and Patterns of
 E-cigarette Use Research
 (VAPER) Study*

publichealth.jhu.edu/igtc

This research was funded by NIDA and FDA Center for Tobacco Products (CTP) under Award Number U54DA036105. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the NIH or the FDA.

The work being presented has received funding or other means of support from any of the following sources:

Any of the authors have received funding (including consultancy) from any of the following sources in the past 5 years:

Competing Interests: Dr. Cohen was a paid consultant in litigation against a tobacco company.

	Tobacco industry	E-cigarette & nicotine product industry	Pharma industry
The work being presented has received funding or other means of support from any of the following sources:	NO	NO	NO
Any of the authors have received funding (including consultancy) from any of the following sources in the past 5 years:	NO	NO	NO