

Knowledge and attitude regarding e-cigarettes among health professionals in a university setting.

Information for the participant:

Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) are a form of nicotine delivery which is gaining rapid popularity worldwide. As health professionals/clinicians we should be aware of emerging tobacco products. This questionnaire is intended to assess the knowledge and attitude of health professional towards this rapidly emerging form of nicotine consumption. All information contained in this questionnaire is strictly confidential and will be used only for the purpose of research. The entire exercise should not take more than 10 minutes. Please answer the questions below. Thank you very much for your support.

Consent Form

I understand the purpose of the study and acknowledge that I am participating in the study voluntarily and that the information below was provided with my complete knowledge and consent.

I agree I disagree

Age (year) 25 to 35 36 to 45 46 to 55 55 to 65 more than 66

Gender Male Female

Education level Bachelors Masters Ph.D

Faculty Dentistry Medicine Pharmacology Other:

Teaching/ Clinical experience < 5 years 5 to 10 years > 10 years

1. Are you a smoker? Yes No

2. In your opinion which is the most likely place to purchase e-cigarettes

Corner shop

Specialized shops dealing in tobacco products

Internet

3. Do you believe that e-cigarettes are being used by a large number of Malaysians?

yes

no

don't know

4. Have e-cigarettes obtained approval from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a traditional cigarette cessation aid?

yes

no

don't know

5. Regarding the amount of nicotine delivered by e-cigarettes in comparison to normal cigarettes; is it

similar

less

more

don't know

6. The duration of a typical e-cigarette smoking session is

same as tobacco cigarette

shorter than tobacco cigarette

longer than tobacco cigarette

don't know

7. Exposure to second hand smoke (vapors) produced by e-cigarettes is

as harmful as tobacco cigarette

less harmful than tobacco cigarette

more harmful than tobacco cigarette

don't know

8. Level of carcinogens present in e-cigarettes when compared to tobacco cigarette are

same

less

more

don't know

9. In your opinion, nicotine in e-cigarettes can cause following disorders/condition?

- CVS
- Respiratory
- Periodontal
- Cancers
- Dry mouth with cough and irritation

10a. Have you encountered a patient who was using e-cigarettes

- yes
- no

10b. If Yes, did you give smoking cessation advice to the patient

- yes
- no

11. Do you think e-cigarettes can act as gateway to use other tobacco products?

- yes
- no
- don't know

12. Do you think availability of several different flavors of e-cigarette will be more appealing to the user?

- yes
- no
- don't know

13. In comparison to normal cigarettes, do you think the cost of long term e-cigarette usage is

- same
- greater
- lower
- don't know

14. Are you aware of Malaysian national tobacco policies regarding e-cigarettes purchase and their use?

- yes
- no
- don't know

15. Do you believe that there is a need to address emerging methods of tobacco use such as e-cigarettes in undergraduate curriculum?

- yes
- no
- don't know

16. Do you believe there is a need to include e-cigarette use in tobacco cessation counseling sessions for patients?

- yes
- no
- don't know

17. Do you believe that there is a need for workshops to be offered to clinicians/ academicians updating them on emerging tobacco trends?

- yes
- no
- don't know

Table 1: Summary of the responses from the health professionals for the questionnaire

		n=96	%age
In your opinion which is the most likely place to purchase e-cigarettes	Corner shop	12	12.50
	specialized	33	34.38
	Internet	51	53.13
Do you believe that e-cigarettes are being used by a large number of people in Malaysia	Yes	12	12.50
	No	20	20.83
	Don't Know	64	66.67
Have e-cigarettes been approved/disapproved from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as a traditional cigarette cessation aid?	Yes	8	8.33
	No	22	22.92
	Don't Know	66	68.75
Regarding the amount of nicotine delivered by e-cigarettes in comparison to conventional cigarettes; is it	Similar	16	16.67
	less	35	36.46
	more	10	10.42
	don't know	35	36.46
In comparison to conventional cigarette duration of a typical e-cigarette smoking session is	Same as conventional cigarette	15	15.63
	Shorter	22	22.92
	Longer	11	11.46
	don't know	48	50.00
In comparison to conventional cigarette exposure to second hand smoke (vapours) produced by e-cigarettes is	As harmful	32	33.33
	less harmful	31	32.29
	more harmful	5	5.21
	don't know	19	19.79
Level of carcinogens present in e-cigarettes when compared to conventional cigarettes are	same	32	33.33
	less	31	32.29
	more	5	5.21
	don't know	28	29.17
In your opinion, nicotine in e-cigarettes can cause following disorders/condition?	CVD	58	60.42
	respiratory	68	70.83
	periodontal	34	35.42

	cancers	57	59.38
	dry mouth	58	60.42
Have you encountered a patient who was using e-cigarettes	yes	20	20.83
	no	76	79.17
If Yes, did you give smoking cessation advice to the patient?	yes	17	85.00
	no	3	15.00
Do you think e-cigarettes can act as gateway to use other tobacco products?	yes	60	62.50
	no	15	15.63
	don't know	21	21.88
Do you think availability of different flavors of e-cigarette will be more appealing to the user?	yes	83	86.46
	no	2	2.08
	don't know	11	11.46
In comparison to, do you think the cost of long term e-cigarette usage is	same	15	15.63
	greater	47	48.96
	lower	9	9.38
	don't know	24	25.00
Are you aware of Malaysian national tobacco policies regarding e-cigarettes purchase and their use?	yes	3	3.13
	no	47	48.96
	don't know	46	47.92
Do you believe that there is a need to address emerging methods of tobacco use such as e-cigarettes in undergraduate curriculum?	yes	82	85.42
	no	8	8.33
	don't know	6	6.25
Do you believe there is a need to include e-cigarette use in tobacco cessation counselling sessions for patients?	yes	84	87.50
	no	6	6.25
	don't know	6	6.25
Do you believe that there is a need for workshops to be offered to clinicians/ academicians updating them on emerging tobacco trends?	yes	93	96.88
	no	3	3.13
	don't know	0	