

Call of Abstracts - “International conference on the E-Cigarette: patterns of use and health impacts”



Call of abstracts

“International conference on the E-Cigarette: patterns of use and health impacts” - Paris, on 5-6th December 2022

Submission form

Poster & oral presentation

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Health Effects of Electronic Cigarettes: An Umbrella Review and Methodological Considerations

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Abstract details (poster & oral)

Background, method, results and conclusions

BACKGROUND: E-cigarettes are often marketed as a safer alternative to combustible cigarettes. However, their health effects, especially those associated with long-term use, remain largely uncertain. We conducted an umbrella review of cardiopulmonary and carcinogenic risks of e-cigarette use, distinguishing between their short-term and longer-term health effects and considering both the absolute harm of e-cigarettes and their harm/benefits relative to smoking.

METHODS: The search for systematic reviews examining cardiovascular, respiratory, pulmonary, and carcinogenic effects of e-cigarettes was conducted across five electronic databases through January 25th, 2022. Methodological quality was assessed using the AMSTAR-2 quality appraisal tool.

RESULTS: Seventeen systematic reviews, including five meta-analyses, were included in our review. Quality assessment revealed important limitations in the methodology or reporting of existing reviews. There was a clear underreporting of e-cigarette device and e-liquid types, duration of e-cigarette use, and health and smoking status of study participants across reviews. Overall, findings suggest that short-term use of e-cigarettes may be associated with acute cardiopulmonary risks, although to a lesser extent than cigarette use. Longer-term e-cigarette use may have cardiopulmonary benefits in those who switch from chronic cigarette smoking, particularly in individuals with asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Evidence on intermediate and longer-term carcinogenic effects is lacking.

CONCLUSION: The umbrella review underscores the urgent need for systematic reviews with better adherence to established reporting guidelines, consistent definition of duration of e-cigarette use, focus on newer devices, and accounting for the impact of former or current smoking.

Main messages

MAIN MESSAGE: Future systematic reviews with improved methodology and reporting are needed to ensure clear and reliable evidence on the health consequences of e-cigarettes to inform tobacco regulatory actions.

Type of study / research

Systematic review

Geography of the study

International (including Europe)

Funding of study

Federal source

Yes

State source No**Nonprofit Grant Funding Entity Source** No**Nonprofit Grant Funding Entity Source** No**Academic Institution Source** No**Pharmaceutical Industry Source** No**Tobacco/E-Cigarette Industry Source** Yes**Declaration of interest**

The submitter declares that during the past 5 years have a direct nor indirect link (professional*, personal or financial**) with the tobacco and e-cigarette companies

 No