



**EL-SCIENCE**  
LEADING E-LIQUID  
QUALITY

# Smoking vs Vaping

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*Chief Scientific Officer*

# WHAT IS EL-SCIENCE?



- Expert Scientific Team
- State-of-the-art automated instrumentation
- Dedicated to rapid, quality controlled e-liquid manufacture and analysis



# WHAT IS IN A CIGARETTE?



- When a cigarette burns it releases a dangerous cocktail of over 5,000 chemicals:
  - **Nicotine**
  - **Carcinogens & poisons**
  - **Additives designed to make cigarettes taste nicer & keep smokers hooked**

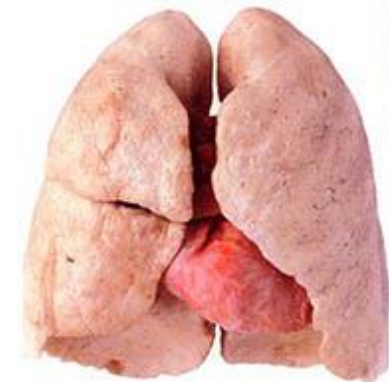
- Tar
- Arsenic
- Benzene
- Cadmium
- Formaldehyde
- Polonium-210
- Chromium
- 1,3-Butanediene
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Tobacco-specific nitrosamines
- Acrolein
- Hydrogen cyanide
- Carbon monoxide
- Nitrogen oxides
- Ammonia



# THE DANGERS OF SMOKING



- Smoking causes over a quarter of all cancer deaths in the UK & nearly one in five cancer cases
  - **At least 14 different types of cancer**
  - **Heart disease**
  - **Various lung diseases**
- Chemicals in cigarette smoke enter the blood stream
- DNA damage
  - **Some damage DNA directly**
  - **Others make poisons in cigarette smoke stick more strongly to DNA, increasing the chances of serious damage**
  - **Others interfere with pathways for repairing damaged DNA**
- Weakening of the body's defences
  - **Smokers can't handle toxic chemicals as well as those with healthy lungs & blood**
  - **Major impact to the immune system**
- Concentration of chemicals in body
  - **E.g. heavy smokers can be exposed to up to 150 times the background level of radioactive polonium-210**



# WHAT ARE E-CIGS?



- Battery-powered devices that have cartridges or refillable tanks containing a liquid mixture primarily composed of:
  - Propylene glycol
  - Vegetable glycerin
  - Nicotine
  - Flavourings



# WHAT ARE E-CIGS?



- The exhaled aerosol does NOT contain smoke, tar or carbon monoxide.
- Studies have shown that compared with conventional cigarettes, the by-products from e-cig aerosols produce very low levels of air toxins.



# PROPYLENE GLYCOL



- Major e-liquid ingredient
- A clear, colourless, syrupy liquid
- Odourless & tasteless
- Approved by the FDA as a solubilizing agent for different types of medications
- Used in the food, cosmetic, pharmaceutical & chemical industries
- Wide use means much is known about the safety of this material
- Used to generate theatre fog.



# VEGETABLE GLYCERIN



- Also known as glycerol
- Made from vegetable oil
- Widely used in foods, as a sweetener, medications & cosmetic products
- It is a common ingredient in cough mixtures due to its soothing properties
- Used to treat gum disease, as it inactivates the associated bacterial colonies
- Both PG & VG found safe in cells & animal toxicology studies (**Robertson et al. 1947; Wertley et al, 2011; Renne et al, 1992**)

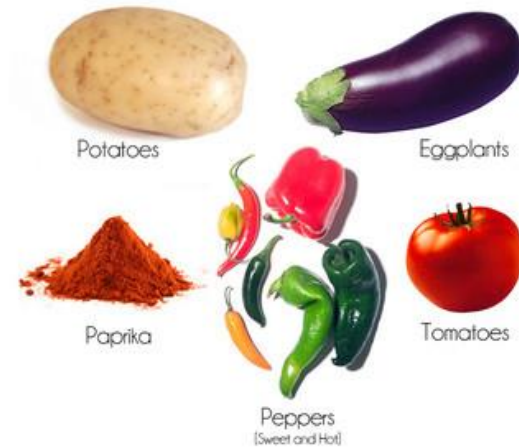
A screenshot of the Boots website product page for 'Value Health Glycerin B.P. 200ml'. The page features the Boots logo, a search bar, and navigation links. The product is shown as a small glass bottle with a white label and a blue cap. The price is listed as £1.39 or 139 points. The page also includes a star rating, a 'Write a review' link, and a note that the product is currently out of stock. The breadcrumb trail indicates the product is located under 'Home &gt; Pharmacy &amp; Health &gt; Health shop &gt; Cough, cold &amp; flu &gt; Sore throat &gt; Value Health Glycerin B.P. - 200ml'.



# NICOTINE

- Derived naturally from tobacco, which is a member of the nightshade family of flowering plants
  - **Includes potatoes, tomatoes, aubergine & capsicum pepper plants**
- Can also be manufactured synthetically
- Nicotine is absorbed through the skin & mucosal linings in the nose, mouth & lungs
- Travels through the bloodstream to the brain
- Stimulates adrenal glands to produce adrenaline
  - **This increases heart rate & blood pressure while constricting blood vessels**
  - **Also stimulates the production of dopamine – a neurotransmitter that controls the brain's pleasure centre**

Nightshades



# Paracelsus

1493 - 1541

Founded the discipline of **Toxicology**

***“The dose makes the poison”***



# NICOTINE



- Most e-liquids contain:
  - 6 mg/mL
  - 12 mg/mL
  - 18 mg/mL
  - 24 mg/mL

10 mL/week =  $\pm$  1.5 mL/day  
@ 6 mg/mL =  $\pm$  9 mg/day  
@ 24 mg/mL =  $\pm$  36 mg/day

20 cigarettes/day =  $\pm$  20 mg/day  
40 cigarettes/day =  $\pm$  40 mg/day



- 1 regular cigarette contains approx. 10-15 mg of nicotine & delivers a systemic dose of approx. 1 mg of nicotine



- Blood levels of nicotine are generally lower from electronic cigarette use than conventional cigarettes
- E-Cigs also deliver nicotine much more slowly over a period of time



# FLAVOURINGS



- Widely used to improve or modify odour &/or taste
- Can be extracted from natural sources or manufactured synthetically

FRUITS



MINTS & MENTHOLS



SWEETS & PUDDINGS



TOBACCO



# THE PROS OF E-CIGS



- No serious side effects have ever been reported
  - **Worst effects include cough (26%), dry mouth (22%), shortness of breath (20%), throat irritation (17%), headache (17%)**
  - **Frequency of adverse effects decrease over time (Caponnetto et al., 2013)**
- Study showed an increase in white blood cell count when an individual smoked a cigarette but no significant change with e-cig use (**Flouris et al., Inhalation Toxicology, 2013**)



# THE PROS OF E-CIGS



- Study of pulmonary function & symptoms in smokers with asthma who switched to e-cigs – found no adverse effects but rather the e-cig users had improved pulmonary function & reduced severity of asthma symptoms
  - 18 heavy smokers with mild to moderate asthma had pulmonary function tests at 0, 6 & 12 months after beginning to use e-cigs
  - 10 of these (56%) quit smoking entirely
  - 8 (44%) continued as dual users



- Dual users decreased their number of cigarettes smoked per day from an average of 22.4 at baseline to 3.9 per day at 12 months

*Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* **2014**, *11*, 4965–4977; doi:10.3390/ijerph110504965

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Article

## Effect of Smoking Abstinence and Reduction in Asthmatic Smokers Switching to Electronic Cigarettes: Evidence for Harm Reversal

Riccardo Polosa <sup>1,2,3,\*</sup>, Jaymin Morjaria <sup>4</sup>, Pasquale Caponnetto <sup>1,2</sup>, Massimo Caruso <sup>1,3</sup>,  
Simona Strano <sup>1,3</sup>, Eliana Battaglia <sup>1,3</sup> and Cristina Russo <sup>1,2,3</sup>



# WHAT ABOUT PASSIVE VAPING?



- Passive cigarette smoke exposure is hazardous
  - **Associated with respiratory diseases**
  - **Asthma**
  - **Lung cancer**
  - **Acute coronary events**
  - **Stroke**
- These effects result from exposure to the combustion products of tobacco
- Most of the second hand smoke generated from conventional cigarettes results from **sidestream smoke**
  - **Accounts for 75% of the burning cigarette mass**



# WHAT ABOUT PASSIVE VAPING?



- E-cigs **do not** generate sidestream aerosol
- Second hand emissions from e-cigs consist entirely of what is exhaled after inhalation by the user
- E-cig emissions of harmful chemicals are significantly **lower** than those generated by combusted cigarettes
- Even the ambient level of nicotine is approx. **10% lower**



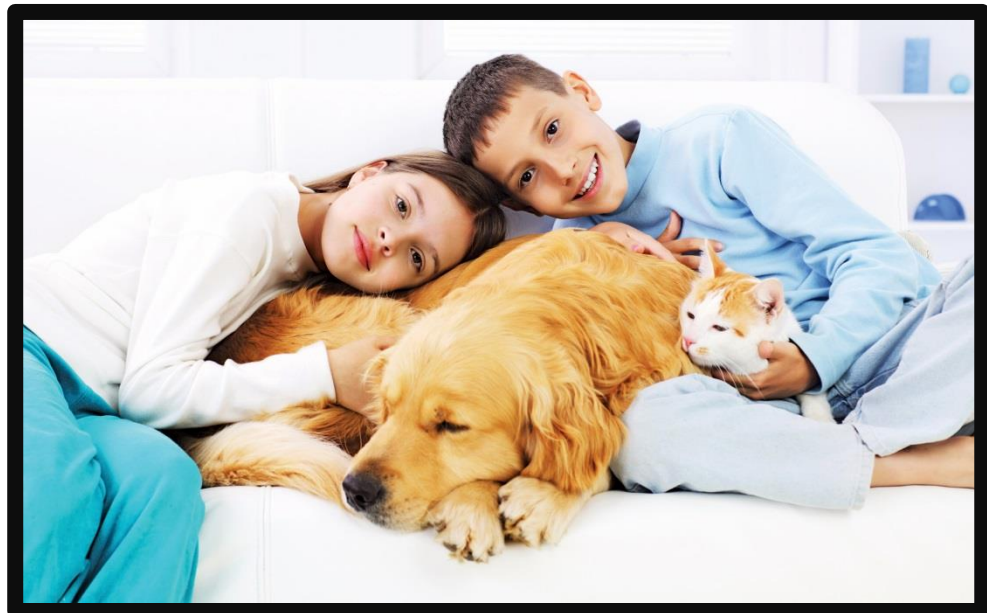


# WHAT TO BE AWARE OF



- Be aware of who you purchase your electronic cigarettes & e-liquids from!
- The nicotine content noted on the packaging of some e-liquids has been found to be incorrect
- Has the manufacturer used pharmaceutical grade ingredients?
- Acute nicotine toxicity is a concern if e-liquids are ingested

**Keep e-cigs &  
e-liquids out of  
reach of  
children & pets!**



# WHAT TO BE AWARE OF



- Heavy heating of e-liquids can result in thermal degradation & the formation of hazardous compounds

Table 4 Comparison of toxins levels between conventional and electronic cigarettes

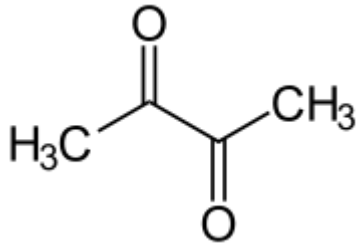
Toxic compound	Conventional cigarette ( $\mu\text{g}$ in mainstream smoke) <sup>35</sup>	Electronic cigarette ( $\mu\text{g}$ per 15 puffs)	Average ratio (conventional vs electronic cigarette)
Formaldehyde	1.6–52	0.20–5.61	9
Acetaldehyde	52–140	0.11–1.36	450
Acrolein	2.4–62	0.07–4.19	15
Toluene	8.3–70	0.02–0.63	120
NNN	0.005–0.19	0.00008–0.00043	380
NNK	0.012–0.11	0.00011–0.00283	40

Goniewicz et al., Tobacco Control, 2013

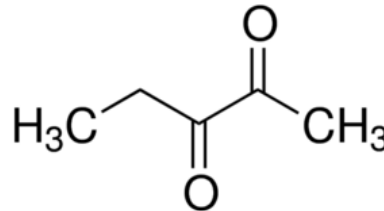
# WHAT TO BE AWARE OF

- Many substances are used in the manufacture of flavourings
- Common food flavouring chemicals include:

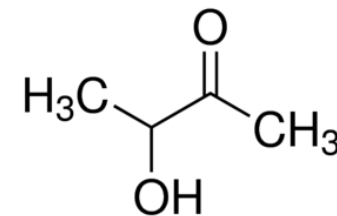
**Diacetyl**  
(2, 3-butanedione)



**Acetyl Propionyl**  
(2,3-pentanedione)



**Acetoin**  
(3-hydroxybutanone)



- Prominent in the following flavours:

- Custard
- Caramel
- Butterscotch
- Maple syrup
- Brown sugar
- Coffee



- Some fruit flavours

# WHAT TO BE AWARE OF



- Occurrence of severe lung disease among workers in workplaces where diacetyl is manufactured and used
  - **Used in artificial butter flavouring**
  - **Workers in several US factories manufacturing microwave popcorn developed**

## Bronchiolitis Obliterans

*"Popcorn Worker's Lung"*



- Flavour manufacturers have substituted diacetyl for acetyl propionyl and acetoin
  - **Very structurally similar**
  - **Not well-studied**
  - **Growing concern that they also pose a health risk upon inhalation**

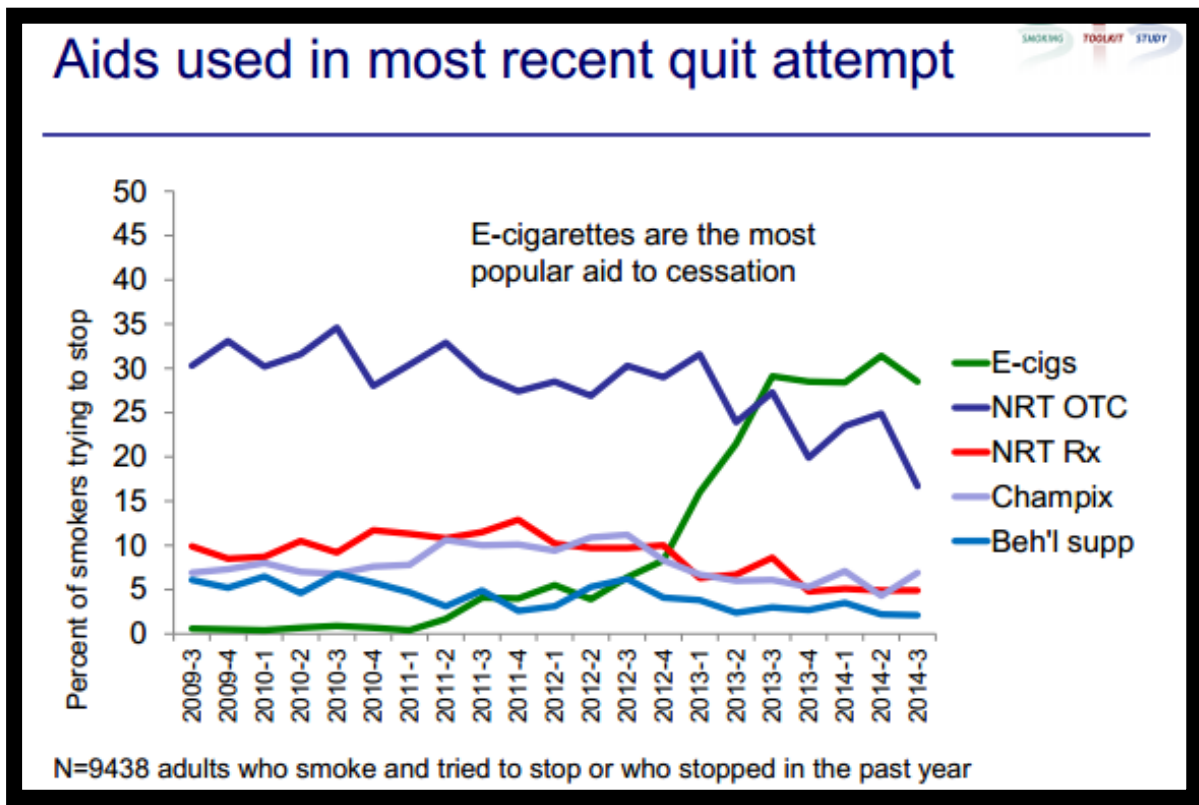
# TIME TO QUIT SMOKING



- Prof. Robert West (Professor of Health Psychology & Director of Tobacco Studies at Cancer Research UK)
- Currently e-cigarettes are the most popular aid to smoking cessation in the UK

- 30% of quit attempts involve use of e-cigarettes making them the most popular method of stopping smoking

- 20% of smokers & 30% of recent ex-smokers use e-cigarettes



# TIME TO QUIT SMOKING



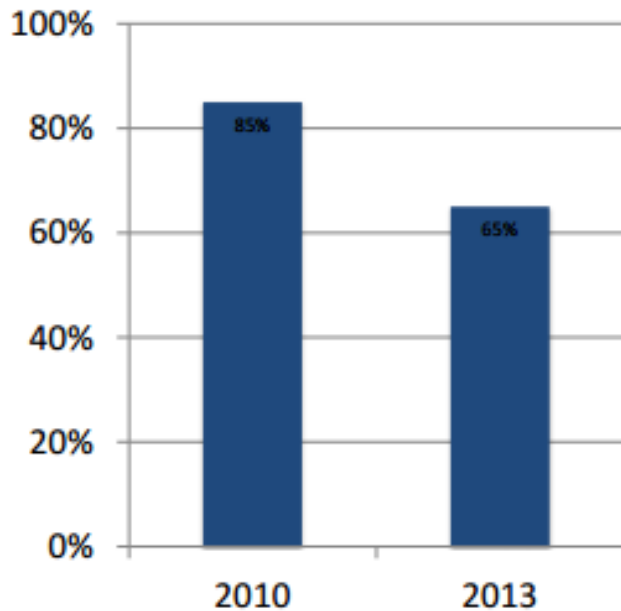
- Study by Brown et al., Addiction, 2014
  - Showed that smokers who tried to quit without professional help were significantly more likely to report abstinence using e-cigarettes than with traditional cessation aids or going “cold turkey”
- UK Survey published by Dawkins et al., Addiction, 2013
  - Showed that **67.8%** of e-cigarette users “completely replaced tobacco cigarettes with electronic cigarettes”.



# SPREAD THE WORD

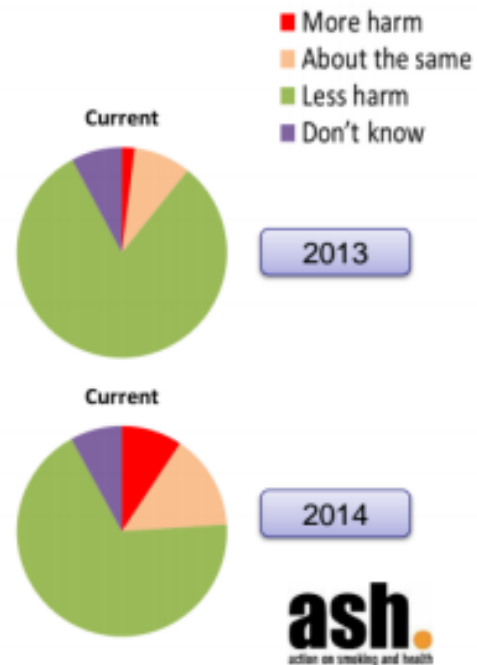


**Believe e-cigs safer than cigarettes?  
US adult smokers**



Tan ASL, Bigman CA. E-cigarette awareness and perceived harmfulness: prevalence and associations with smoking-cessation outcomes. *Am J Prev Med* 2014; 47: 141-9.

**Perceived e-cig risk in young British smokers**



Trends in electronic cigarette use in young people in Great Britain over 2013-2014 Arnott, Britton, Cheeseman, Dockrell, Eastwood, Jarvis, & McNeill ASH, CR-UK, PHE 2014

# SAVING LIVES



How much safer are e-cigarettes in comparison to conventional cigarettes?

**> 95%**

- US Population:
  - **40 million smokers**
  - **480,000 smoking-attributable deaths**
  - **0.8% annual quit rate from 2002 to 2012**
- Cessation leads to a gradual reduction in risk (almost equal to never-smokers in 15-20 years)
- What would happen if the use of e-cigarettes replaced conventional smoking (considering a 5% residual risk from e-cig use)?



**How many deaths would be averted in 10 & 20 years?**

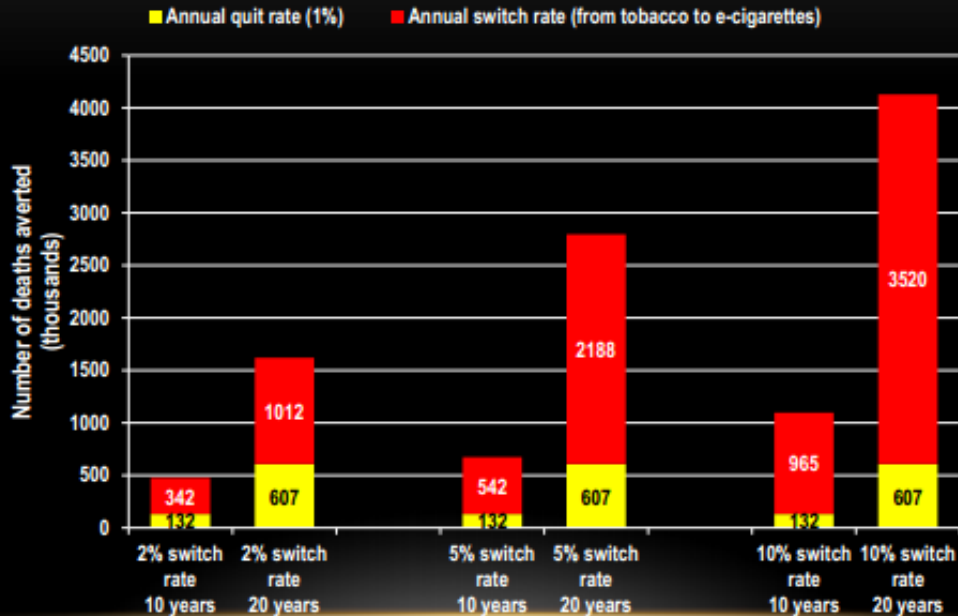


# SAVING LIVES



## POPULATION EFFECT

Similar (if not stronger) effects expected in the European Union (700,000 deaths annually attributed to smoking)



Nitzkin, Farsalinos. 20-years projection of mortality attributed to smoking in the US by endorsing a THR initiative (e-cigarette use).

