



# reasons why e-cigarettes

# ARE NOT SAFE

## 1 E-cigarettes are a growing trend to substitute cigarettes

- Battery operated devices
- Modeled to look and feel like cigarettes
- Use an atomizer to heat liquid from a cartridge until it becomes an aerosol
- Produce aerosol containing nicotine, ultra fine particles and low levels of carcinogenic and otherwise toxic materials
- Burns, body-scarring blasts and explosions have been documented as a result of their use

## 2 E-cigarettes present special dangers to children

- Available in flavors including cotton candy, bubble gum, chocolate, strawberry and mint, which makes them appealing to kids
- New route to conventional smoking and nicotine addiction for teenagers

## 3 Nicotine poisoning is a serious risk

- Pure nicotine is deadly poison.
- A fatal dose of nicotine for an adult is between 50 and 60 milligrams; a fatal dose for children is less. E-cigarettes contain 18 mg to 24 mg per unit.
- The number of calls to poison control centers about e-cigarette nicotine-infused liquids have risen sharply in the last few years. As many as 51% of those calls involved accidental poisoning of kids under the age of 5.

## 4 E-cigarettes are not a proven Nicotine Replacement Therapy

- Although e-cigarettes are marketed as a safer alternative to smoking, they are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).
- Researchers are finding e-cigarette users experience diminished lung function, airway resistance and cellular changes, regardless of whether or not they currently (or ever) smoke cigarettes.

## 5 E-cigarettes are currently not regulated

- As currently marketed, e-cigarettes have a chemical composition and aerosolization process that vary by device and manufacturer. People who buy them do not know what they are really getting.
- E-cigarettes should be regulated, controlled, treated, and taxed just like cigarettes.



JEFFERSON COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH