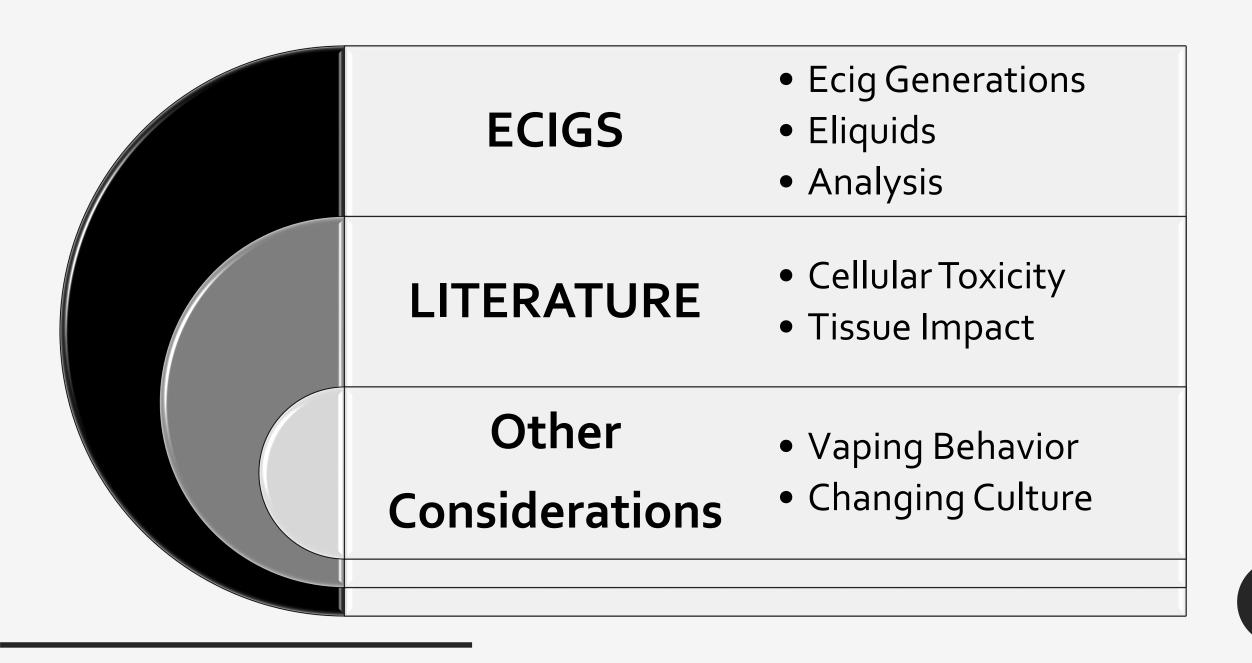
# THE CURRENT STATE: VAPING, DEVICES, AND E-LIQUIDS



#### NIJ Statement and Financial Disclosure

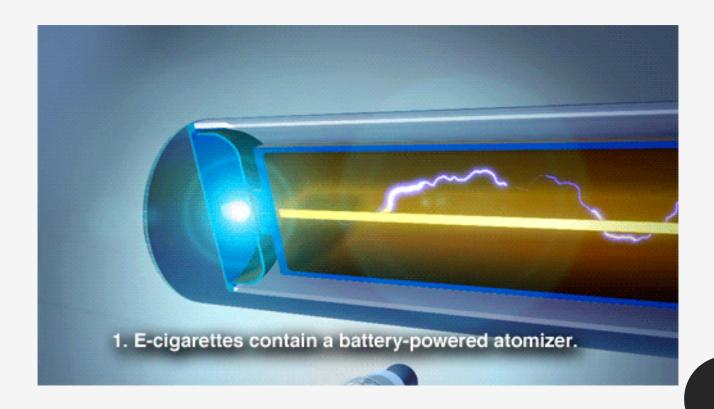
- Through the Looking Glass: Part 1 & 2 Abuse of the Evolving Electronic Cigarette and the Impact of Vaping Ethanol in the Evaluation of Impairment
- Characterization and Abuse of Electronic Cigarettes: The Efficacy of Personal Vaporizers as an Illicit
  Drug Delivery System
- Chasing the E-cigarette Dragon: Characterizing the Evolution and Impact of Design and Conent are supported by Award Nos. 2014-R2-CX-K010 and 2016-DN-BX-0150 and 2018-75-CX-0036, 2019-MU-MU-0007 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Justice.
- No funding was obtained from any manufacturer of any product used in this study.



#### **PREMISE**

#### Electronic cigarettes are a safer alternative to traditional cigarettes

- They use FDA approved ingredients
- They are non-combusting
- They do not contain tobacco
  - No tar
- They will not lead to cancer



#### **E-CIG GENERATIONS**

#### First Generation – "Ciga-like"



Second Generation – "Mid-size"





- looks like real cigarettes
- simplest make-up (battery, coil, and filling)
- low single voltage
- can contain a cartomizer
- appeal to visual users trying to quit traditional cigarettes

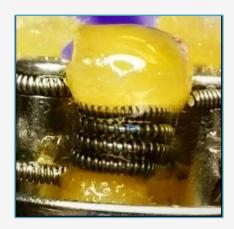
- looks like a pen
- larger than cigalikes and are more customizable
- commonly called a clearomizer
- rechargeable battery and refillable tank decreases cost

#### **E-CIG GENERATIONS**

#### Third Generation – "Advanced Personal Vaporizers"







- stronger batteries and various settings
- rebuildable atomizer
- smoked by advanced vapers because of the endless modification possibilities

Fourth Generation – "Alternative Vaping Products"







- Liquid with particulates
- Non-liquid vaping material

#### **E-CIG GENERATIONS**

#### Fifth Generation





- POD MODS
  - "Ultra-portable" = Easy to Conceal
  - Nic-Salts
  - EtOH Content?









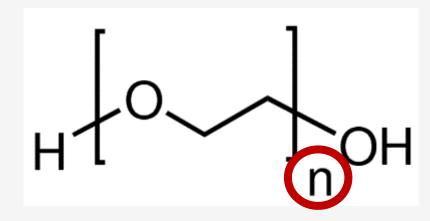
#### **E-liquid Composition**

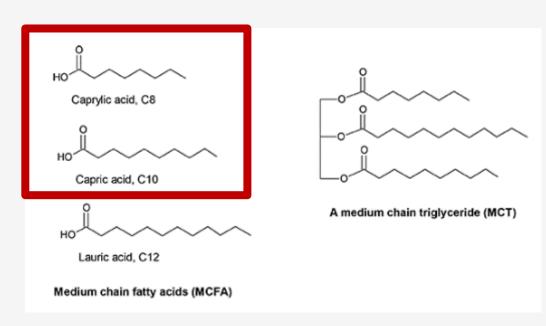
- Propylene Glycol (PG)
- Vegetable Glycerin (VG)
- Flavorants
- Active ingredients
  - Nicotine
  - Drugs Other Than Nicotine (DOTNs)
    - Ethanol
    - Natural products/plant materials
    - Non-Traditional Pharmaceuticals
    - Scheduled Drugs
    - Designer Drugs



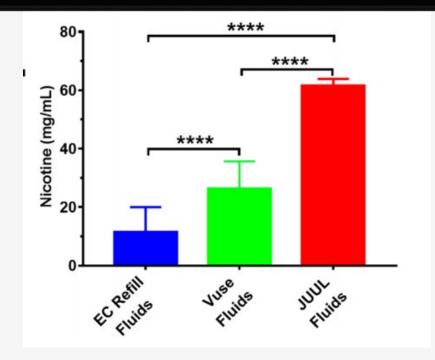
#### **E-liquid Composition??**

- Polyethylene Glycol (PEG)
  - "polyethylene oxide" or "polyoxyethylene"
  - Medical use:
    - Laxatives
    - Pharmaceutical binder or bulk
  - Food additive
  - Creams/lotions
  - Toothpaste
- Medium Chain Triglycerides (MCT)
  - Coconut Oil
  - Easy to digest
- Glycerin/Glycerol





#### **NICOTINE SALTS**

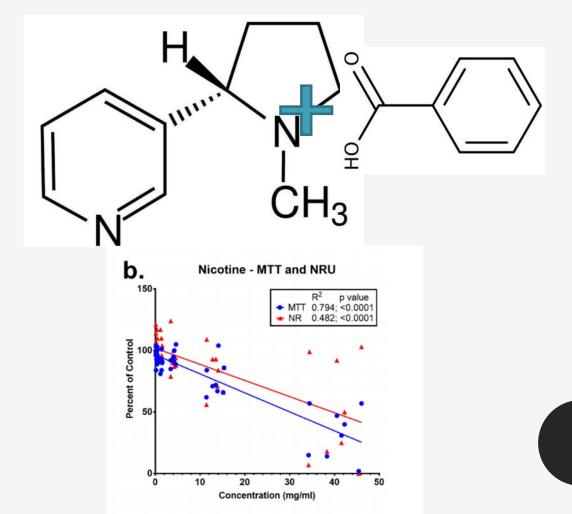






#### What Are Nic Salts?

Nicotine vs Nicotine Salt



Omaiye, et. Al, Chemical Research in Tox, 2019, 32, 1058

### Nicotine Label vs Actual

American Producers
Nicotine 6-22 mg/mL

>10% Diff:

18 of 27

>20% Diff:

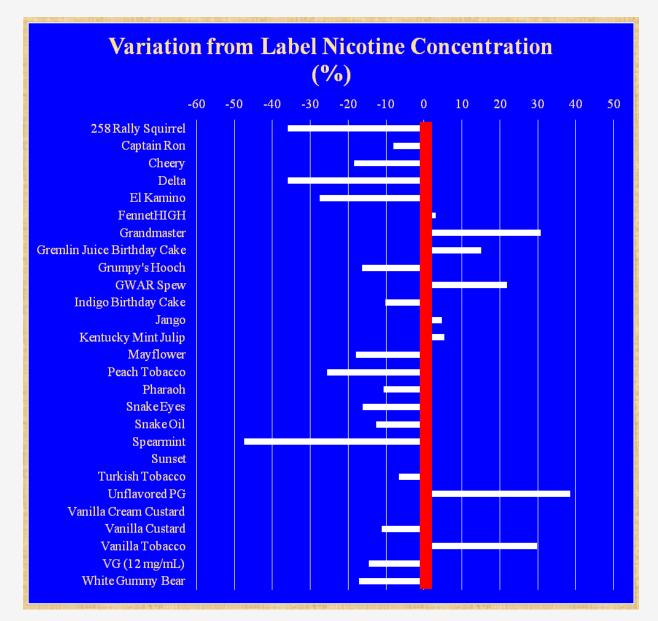
9 of 27

>30 % Diff

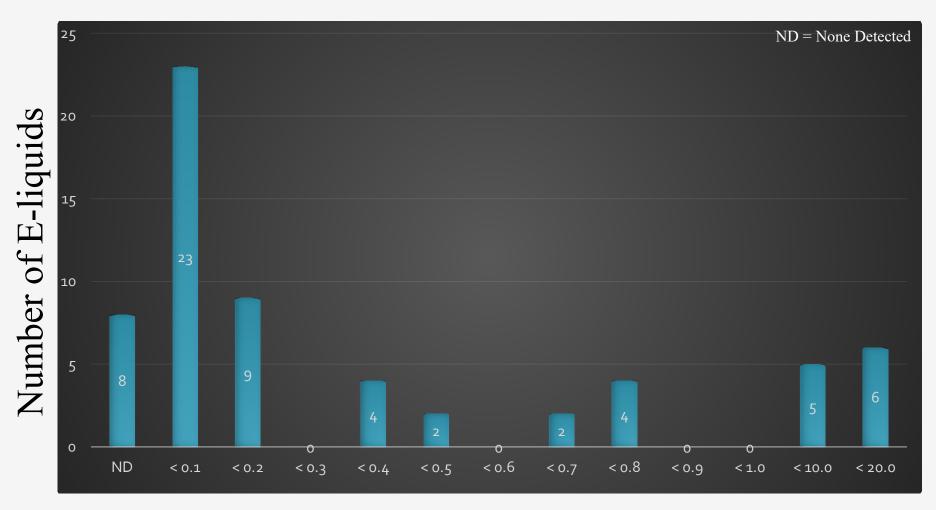
5 of 27

Range:

-47% to +39%



## Headspace FID Analysis of 63 E-Liquids

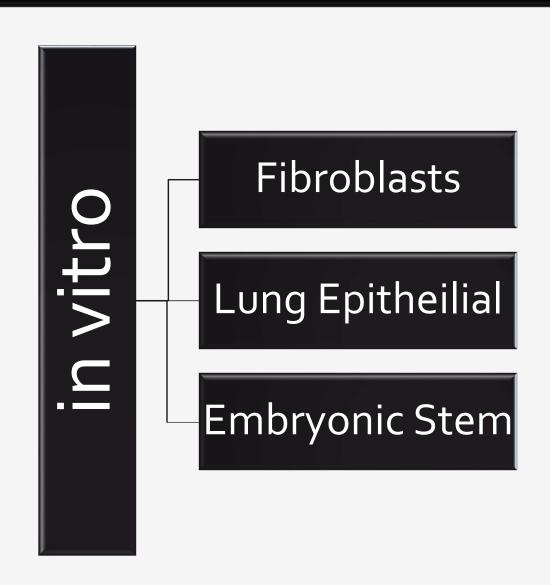


Other VOC:
Acetone
Isopropanol
Methanol

Concentration of Ethanol in % by Weight per Volume

#### Cytotoxicity

Eliquids vs Aerosols Flavorants vs Solvents

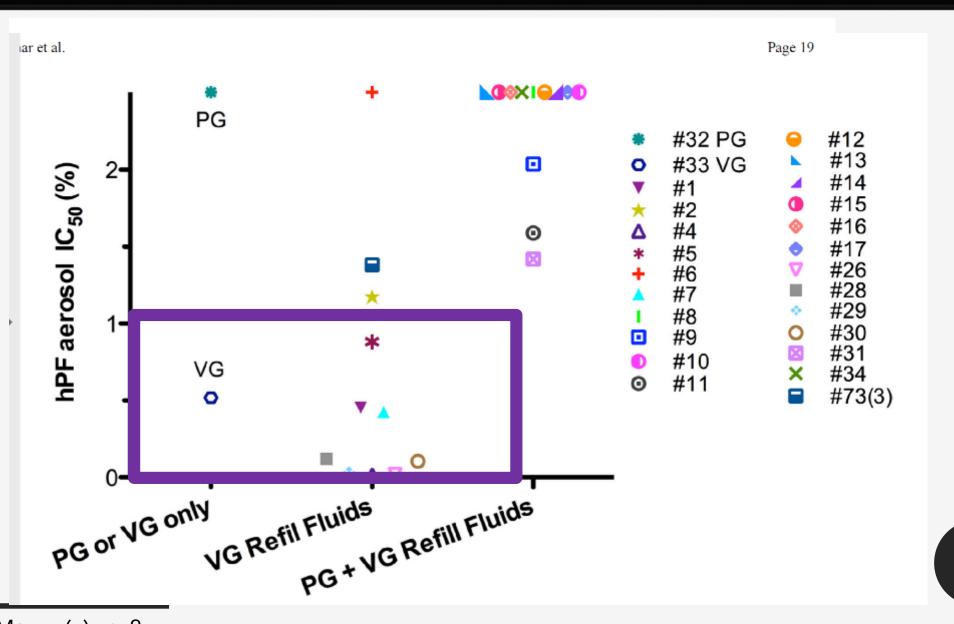


Behar, et al, Tobacco Control May 27(3) 2018

#### Cytotoxicity

#### Toxic flavors:

- Tobacco
- Mint
- Creamy/buttery



Behar, et al, Tobacco Control May 27(3) 2018

#### **E-liquid Composition**

#### E-LIQUID VS E-LIQUID AEROSOL<sup>1,2</sup>

- Must evaluate the aerosol
- Chemical by-products
  - Formaldehyde
  - Acrolein
  - Acetaldehyde
  - Benzene, Pyridine
  - Nitrosonornicotine (NNN) + ketone (NNK)
  - Heavy Metals
  - Dozens of other potential chemical irritants

#### **FLAVORANTS**<sup>3</sup>

- Almost all flavoring chemicals are Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS)
  - FOR ORAL CONSUMPTION ONLY
  - Food approved flavorants are the only source for eliquids
  - Evaluated previous studies for reported concentrations
    - Only 1 flavoring chemical present at toxic level
    - All other flavorants "far below" levels needed for toxic classification
      - At some concentration, all flavoring chemicals have a toxic impact

<sup>1</sup>Varlet, Internat J Environ Res Public Health, 12, p4796

<sup>2</sup>Lim, Anal Bioanal Chem, 409, p1247

<sup>3</sup>Farsalinos, Harm Reduction, 16:48 (2019)

#### **E-Cigarette Deterioration?**

Potential sources of toxic metals:

#### **Atomizer**



E-liquid



Coil



nttp.//vaping3ou.com/best-e-juice-e-iiquid-and-vape-juices/

Kamilari, et.al. Food Chem Toxicol 2018 June;116(Pt B) Palazzolo, et. Al. Front Physiol. 2017 Jan 10;7:663

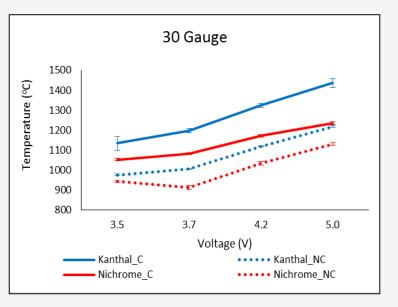
#### **E-Cigarette Deterioration?**

Kanthal A-1 Wire Composition							
С	Si	Mn	Cr	Al	Fe		
0.08%	0.70%	0.40%	23.5%	5.80%	68.32%		

Nichrome Wire Composition					
Fe	Ni	Cr			
24%	60%	16%			



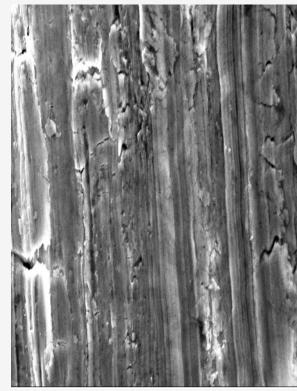




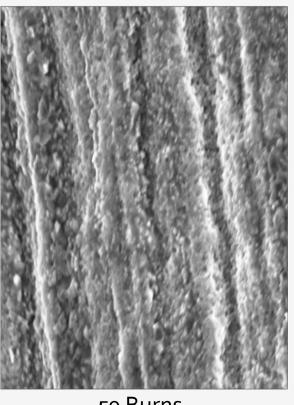
Peace, et.al. Preparing for publication

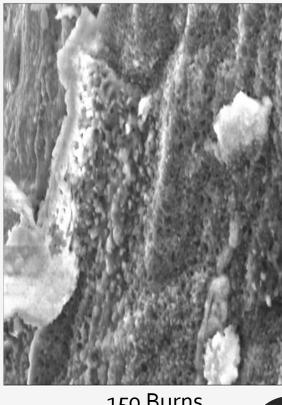
#### **E-Cigarette Deterioration?**

Kanthal Wire. All pictures taken at 2000x magnification









New

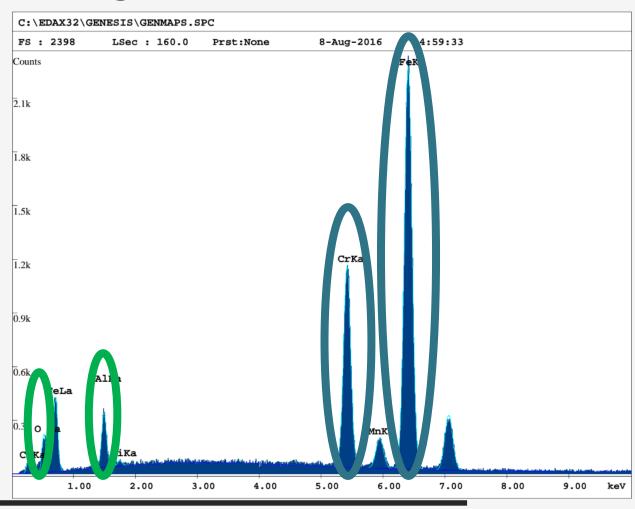
1 Burn

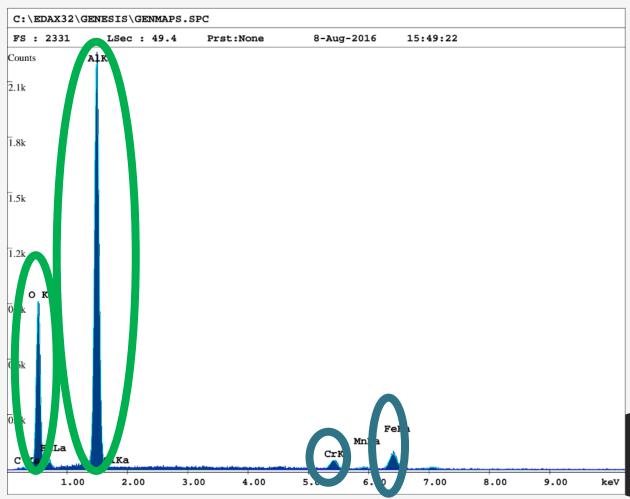
50 Burns

150 Burns

Peace, et.al. Preparing for publication

#### **E-Cigarette Deterioration?**



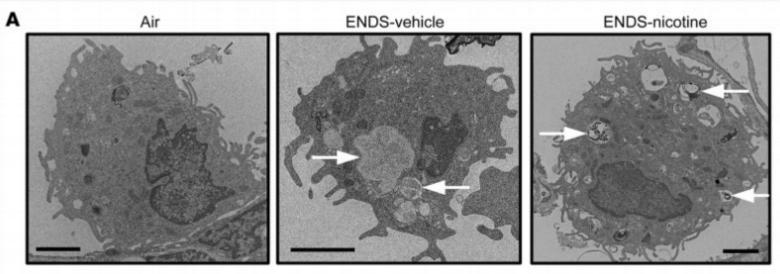


30 AWG Kanthal New

30 AWG Kanthal 150 Burns

#### Complaints

- Nose irritation, Sneezing
- Watery eye, red eyes, sore eyes
- Sore throat, dry throat, cough, asphyxia
- Airway irritation
- Mucus hypersecretion
- Inflammatory response
- Exacerbates asthma, COPD, Cystic fibrosis
- Acute Lipid Pneumonia in mice



Lestari, J Environ Public Health, v2018, 9014340 Thirion-Romero, Rev Invest Clin, 2019, 71:17-27 Madison, J Clin Invest, 2019, JCl128531

Virginia Commonwealth University

#### **CASES**

#### As of October 01, 2019:

- 1,080 lung injury cases
- 18 deaths
- 48 states + 1 US Territory

#### **UTAH:**

6 cases: Lipid-laden macrophages

#### **NORTH CAROLINA:**

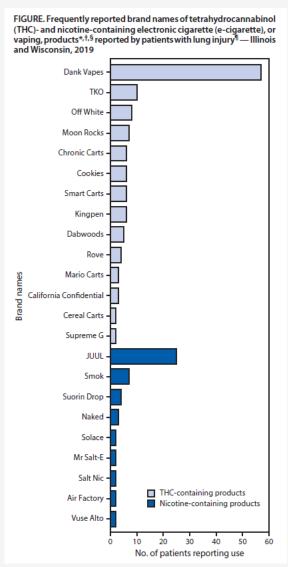
- 5 cases (100% THC, 3/5 nicotine)
  - Lipoid pneumonia lipid-laden macrophages

CDC>Basic Information>E-cigarettes> Severe Lung Disease Ghinai, et.al MMWR Octo4, 2019. V68 #39

#### **CASES**

#### **ILLINOIS and WISCONSIN**

- 127 cases total
  - Interview with 86 of 127 patients
  - 87% used THC products
  - 71% used Nicotine products
  - 58% used THC+Nicotine products
- As of early September, 24 cases had samples taken
  - 14 had cell counts measured
  - Only 7 of 14 measured macrophages
    - ALL 7 were lipid-laden



CDC>Basic Information>E-cigarettes> Severe Lung Disease Ghinai, et.al MMWR Octo4, 2019. V68 #39

Virginia Commonwealth University

#### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

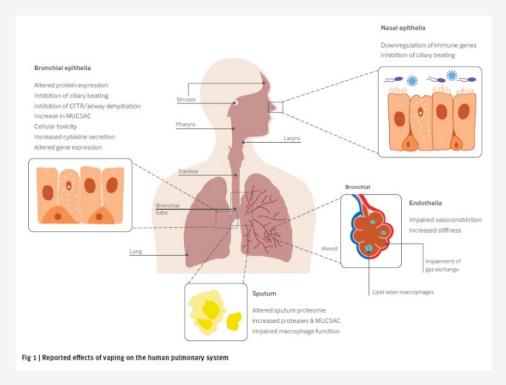
- No data on how many patients voluntarily stop vaping
- Practice of vaping has evolved
  - Deep inhale and hold (THC advice?)
  - Concealment
- E-liquid composition
  - Easier to inhale and hold longer
    - Flavors
    - NicSalts (+ benzoic acid)
    - Ethanol

#### **MECHANISM?**

- Still needs to be hypothesized and tested
  - PG and VG are hygroscopic = drying
    - Deep lung tissue lined with water and surfactant
  - Chemicals and metals are irritants
- 11<sup>th</sup> finger mentality for vaping
  - Combine with long holds

MECHANISM IS STILL UNKNOWN

Gotts, et al. BMJ September 2019:366:L5275



#### **ANOTHER MAJOR ISSUE**







PUBLIC HEALTH ALERT: Users of e-cigarettes and/or vaporizer pens must ensure that the products they purchase do not contain Cannabidiol (CBD) oil, CBD, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) or synthetic cannabinoids.

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE ALARACT ON AKO (CAC REQUIRED) @

Annual Tobacco Ce Events:

nationally supported to need to quit tobacco u

Related Sites

TFL Education for It

Information and Info

8.375 views | May 26, 2018, 03:18pm

#### Fake CBD Poisoned At Least 52 People In Utah Last Winter, Officials Say



Janet Burns Senior Contributor (c) I cover Al, cybersecurity, culture, drugs, and more.



Updated March 06, 2018 03:38 PM

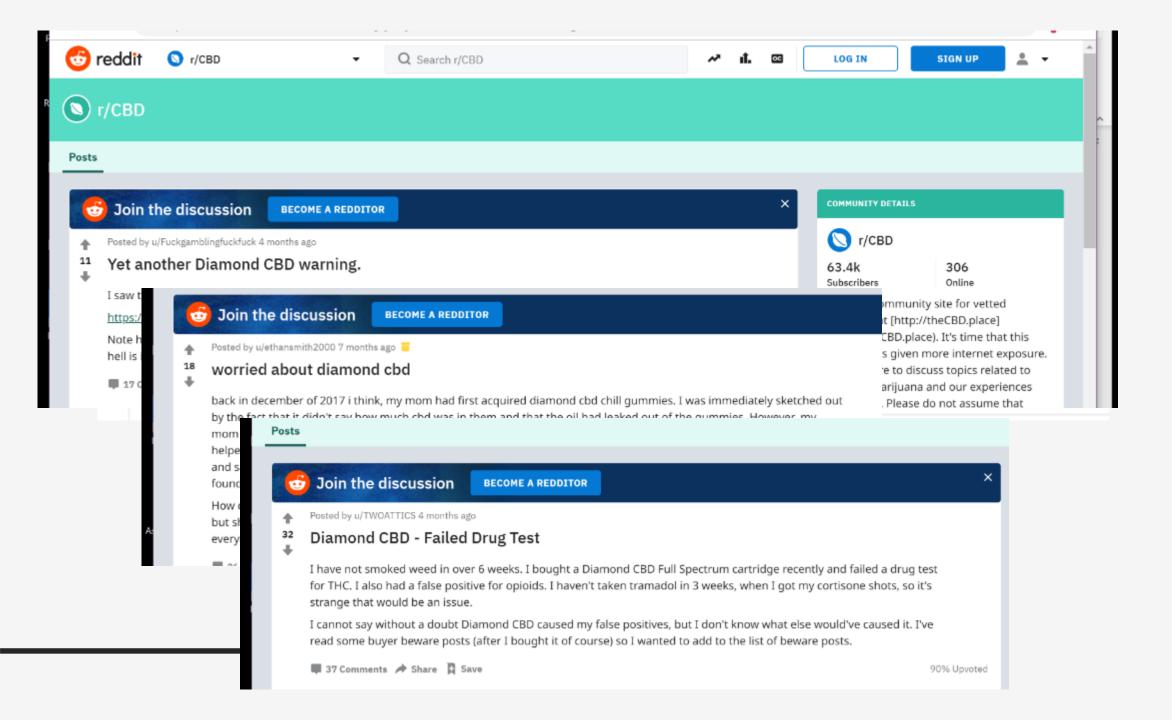
Case	Location	Product Purchase	Victim Quotes
High School Senior	Georgia	Store	One of the times I confronted [my son] in his room pale and glassy eyed
Doctoral Student	Georgia	Store	It was a <b>hard high</b> – was it a reaction to CBD?
Unknown	Unknown	Online	Have you tested other CBD products because this is <b>some bad [stuff]</b>
Unknown	Unknown	Online	I <b>know what pot makes me feel</b> like and thiswasn't it
Immigrant	California	Online	I've <b>not left my apartment</b> for 4 days
72 yo female	Florida	Store	bought a product for knee painher pharmacist recommended it the most
79 yo female	Missouri	Store	she has rheumatoid arthritisshe just wanted to be painfree
Nurse	New Jersey	Store	I can only describe as a situation rapidly devolving into the scariest night of my life. I felt I like I was dissociating from reality

Case	Location	CBD Present	Unexpected Ingredient
High School Senior	Georgia	No	MEP-Fubinaca
Doctoral Student	Georgia	Yes	5F-ADB & Dextromethorphan
Unknown	Unknown	Yes	5F-EDMP-Pinaca?
Unknown	Unknown	No	4F-MDMB-Butinaca
Immigrant	California	No	MMB-Fubica
72 yo female	Florida	Yes	SynCannabinoid
79 yo female	Missouri	Yes	SynCannabinoid
Nurse	New Jersey	Yes	SynCannabinoid











#### Thank you

#### Michelle Peace, Ph.D.

Laboratory for Forensic Toxicology Research
Department of Forensic Science
Virginia Commonwealth University

mrpeace@vcu.edu

Twitter: MichelleRPeace

LinkedIn: Michelle Peace