



Michigan

CHAPTER

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August 30, 2019

The Honorable Gretchen Whitmer

P.O. Box 30013

Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Whitmer:

The Michigan Chapter of the American College of Cardiology (MCACC) urges you to take fast, definitive action to curb the use of e-cigarettes in Michigan. Evidence is growing that proves vaping is detrimental to public health and that users increase their risk of multiple diseases.

- According to the US Surgeon General, “E-cigarette use poses a significant – and avoidable – health risk to young people in the United States. Besides increasing the possibility of addiction and long-term harm to brain development and respiratory health, e-cigarette use is associated with the use of other tobacco products than can do even more damage to the body.” <https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/>
- Research released in March 2019 showed that adults who report use of e-cigarettes are significantly more likely to have a heart attack, coronary artery disease and depression compared with those who don’t use them or any tobacco products. The study’s lead author said, “Until now, little has been known about cardiovascular events relative to e-cigarette use. These data are a real wake-up call and should prompt more action and awareness about the dangers of e-cigarettes.” <https://www.acc.org/about-acc/press-releases/2019/03/07/10/03/ecigarettes-linked-to-heart-attacks-coronary-artery-disease-and-depression>
- A paper published in June 2019 concludes, “Some-day and every-day e-cigarette use are associated with increased risk of having had a myocardial infarction, adjusted for combustible cigarette smoking. Effects of e-cigarettes are similar as conventional cigarette and dual use of e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes at the same time is riskier than using either product alone.” <https://www.ahajournals.org/doi/10.1161/JAHA.119.012317>
- Just last week, researchers reported that, in a small group of healthy young people who did not smoke or vape, vaping one nicotine-free e-cigarette produced transient changes in blood vessels similar to those seen in early atherosclerosis. <https://pubs.rsna.org/doi/10.1148/radiol.2019190562>

It is imperative that you take action now to quell the marketing tactics that tempt our children with flavors and packaging and that disguise the dangers of e-cigarettes.

Sincerely,

David Wohns, MD, FACC
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Peter Fattal, MD, FACC
Advocacy Chair

Alice Betz
Executive Director

The MCACC is the voice of cardiology in Michigan representing more than 1250 cardiovascular specialists including cardiologists, advanced practice nurses, pharmacists, physician assistants, and other clinicians in the care team.