



19 November 2018

Mr Matt Keogh MP
Member for Burt
PO Box 465
KELMSCOTT WA 6991

Dear Mr Keogh

RE- E-CIGARETTES A PUBLIC HEALTH RISK

Thank you for your letter responding to the AMA (WA)'s concerns around e-cigarettes. It is encouraging to have a representative who is engaged in this discourse and interested in reviewing independent, rigorous evidence.

With regards to the research around harms from e-cigarettes and their utility as a cessation tool, the recent CSIRO report is a useful synthesis of current evidence. A summary is below:

Health impact of e-cigarettes and personal vaporisers

- The evidence available suggests that regular use of e-cigarettes is likely to have adverse health consequences.
- There is a lack of clarity about the magnitude of adverse health effects and quantity of e-cigarette use required to trigger adverse health effects.

Impact on smoking tobacco

- In many countries where appropriate evidence is available, it appears that e-cigarette use occurs at the same time as cigarette use ('dual use').
- However, the evidence is consistent in suggesting that use of e-cigarettes by non-smoking youth predicts future smoking.
- While many smokers and former smokers state a preference for e-cigarettes as a smoking cessation method, the effectiveness of this method compared with other smoking cessation methods is not known.

Impact on health of e-cigarettes and personal vaporisers in smokers

- When e-cigarettes are used by smokers instead of conventional cigarettes there is evidence for improvement in individual health, probably mainly due to the reduction in smoking.
- However, use of e-cigarettes may also introduce independent health risks, and 'dual use' of e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes is popular.

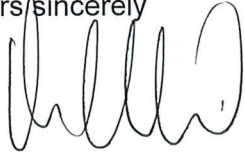
In spite of the mounting pressure from vaping advocates, new evidence with concern to the harms of e-cigarettes and their ineffectiveness as a quitting aid continues to appear weekly.

The uptake of vaping and subsequent tobacco smoking in adolescents is of particular concern. On 31 October 2018, the FDA issued a statement addressing the "epidemic rates in youth e-cigarette use". A 2017 systematic review and meta-analysis in JAMA Pediatrics

found that e-cigarette use was associated with a greater risk for subsequent cigarette smoking initiation and continuing cigarette smoking.

Thank you for your ongoing support of tobacco control efforts in Australia

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Omar Khorshid', written in a cursive style.

DR OMAR KHORSHID
PRESIDENT

Enc - JAMA Pediatrics. 2017;171(8):788-797. doi:10.1001/jamapediatrics.2017.1488 (attached)
<https://www.csiro.au/en/Research/BF/Areas/Nutrition-and-health/E-cigarettes-report>
<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm624657.html>