Sociodemographic Differences in Patterns of Nicotine and Marijuana Vaping Among US Adults

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Key Findings

- Young adults (aged 18-24) (vs. adults aged 35+) had at least 3x higher odds of vaping marijuana only, nicotine and marijuana, and non-nicotine/non-marijuana e-liquid, compared to nicotine only.

- Hispanic and non-Hispanic (NH) Black (vs. NH White) adults had 2.5-3x higher odds of vaping marijuana only and non-nicotine/non-marijuana e-liquid, compared to nicotine only.

- Sexual minority adults (vs. heterosexual adults) had 1.5x higher odds of vaping nicotine and marijuana, compared to nicotine only.

Background

Vaping is a public health concern and electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) can be used to consume not only nicotine but also marijuana. However, patterns of nicotine and marijuana vaping among US adults are not well understood.

Methods

Data

- Restricted to adults (18+) current (past-30-day) ENDS users (n=3,795)

Measures

Four categories of current vaping:
- Nicotine only
- Marijuana only
- Nicotine and marijuana
- Non-nicotine/non-marijuana e-liquid

Sociodemographic predictors:
- Age
- Sex
- Race/ethnicity
- Sexual orientation status
- Educational attainment
- Annual household income

Statistical Analysis

- Weighted prevalence estimates
- Adjusted multinomial logistic regression (ref: nicotine only)

Conclusions

- Nearly half of adult current ENDS users vaped something other than nicotine only.
- Vaping reduction efforts must recognize adults who vape marijuana, or adults who vape neither nicotine nor marijuana.

Tobacco Interest Statement

Interventions and policies aimed at reducing ENDS use and nicotine intake need to consider the rise in marijuana vaping and the complexity behind people who do not vape either substance.

Abstract

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Tables

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