# The impact time since product change on transitions in cigarette and e-cigarette use in a cohort of cigarette and dual users

### **TCORS 2.0**

University of Michigan & Georgetown University

Center for the Assessment of Tobacco Regulations 

# Introduction

- Understanding how people transition between electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), cigarettes, and dual use is important for designing effective interventions.
- Cigarette or e-cigarette users who recently started or stopped using a product may behave differently than long-term users.
- To understand the impact of time since product change, we can compare transition rates between ENDS, cigarette use, and dual product use by length of time since product change.

# Data

# Exhale Study

- Longitudinal cohort study in Wisconsin from 2015-2017.
- Cohort: 422 adult daily cigarette users and dual cigarette and ENDS users who were not intending to quit.
- Users were followed up every two months for two years.
- 207 users started or stopped using cigarettes or ecigarettes at least once.
- Tobacco product use states were determined by self-reported abstinence in the past 30 days and users were categorized into four categories:
  - Non-current use, cigarette only use, e-cigarette only use, or dual use of cigarettes and ecigarettes.

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Hayes-Birchler, Rafael Meza, Andrew F. Brouwer Contact: brouweaf@umich.edu

# Methods

- Univariable multistate Markov model estimate hazard rates of transition as a function of time since last transition.
- Length of time since last transition:
  - Excluded data before first observed transition.
  - Categorized length of time since last transition into: 5 categories for analysis: <2 months, 2 to <4 months, 4 to <6 months, 8 to <14 months, and 14 to 22 months.

### Results



# Months in

N transitions (N possible)													
Transition	0	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	Total
Cig → None	8 (272)	7 (193)	3 (137)	2 (103)	1 (79)	1 (66)	0 (46)	0 (39)	0 (27)	0 (24)	0 (11)	0 (0)	22
Cig → Dual	53 (272)	35 (193)	18 (137)	14 (103)	4 (79)	3 (66)	2 (46)	5 (39)	0 (27)	2 (24)	1 (11)	0 (0)	137
E-cig→ Dual	18 (46)	5 (22)	2 (14)	0 (10)	1 (10)	1 (8)	0 (6)	0 (4)	0 (4)	0 (2)	0 (2)	0 (0)	27
Dual → Cig	116 (301)	49 (155)	23 (98)	14 (69)	3 (45)	11 (36)	2 (22)	1 (16)	4 (13)	1 (6)	1 (5)	2 (3)	227
Dual → E-cig	17 (301)	5 (155)	4 (98)	6 (69)	3 (45)	1 (36)	1 (22)	0 (16)	0 (13)	0 (6)	1 (5)	1 (3)	39

# Fatema Shafie-Khorassani, Megan E. Piper, Douglas E. Jorenby, Timothy B. Baker, Todd



1	State

# Key Findings

• There is typically a period after starting or stopping a cigarette or e-cigarette during which further transition is more likely.

 Most of the observed transitions represented a reversion to a recent previous pattern of use. Transition rates significantly decreased by length of time in state for transitions from: cigarette only to dual use, e-cigarette only to dual use, and dual use to cigarettes only.

• Results may inform smoking cessation or harm reduction strategies by promoting repeated quit attempts or longer e-cigarette trial periods.