

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAFE Glen Cove Coalition: The Vape Debate

According to a recent article in the New York Times New York is getting closer to ending the selling of flavored vape products such as JUUL and E-Cigarettes. This ban has been backed by many officials and legislators. Not surprising it was also argued against by the tobacco industries and owners of shops who sell these harmful devices.

Unfortunately, vaping has become more of a trend than what originally was supposed to be a way for cigarette smokers to ween off their addiction for good. As things have gone completely off course and production of these devices have increased due to their popular demand, it is not surprising why the producers would want to stop selling them. Additionally, there are those in the debate who feel that consumers who rely on vapor products to keep them from smoking cigarettes infringement of their constitutional right to choose a product that they feel would improve their health. This ban that hopes to begin in July 1st, 2020. From there we can only hope it is a start towards controlling this major issue.

What we do know is that research has shown vaping -of all kinds- is dangerous to ones health. Last month a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was released indicating just that. The study evaluated e-cigarette, or vaping, products used by 96 EVALI (patients classified as having e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury) and products intended for the illicit market and seized by law enforcement both before and during the current EVALI outbreak. The findings support a potential role for vitamin E acetate in lung injury in EVALI patients. Vitamin E acetate is, an oily chemical added to some THC vaping liquids to thicken or dilute them, has emerged as one very strong culprit of concern. The chemical is a synthetic form of vitamin E, and it's used — safely — in nutritional supplements and skin creams. But it isn't safe to inhale. Sticky and honey-like, it can hang around in the lungs, health officials said, interfering with how they function.

The CDC's investigation isn't over. Officials still can't say for sure that vitamin E acetate is the source of harm in all cases. Right now, though, the new finding adds to the evidence from federal and state investigations showing vitamin E acetate appears to be a common link in many vaping-related illness cases. Of the 419 THC-containing products the Food and Drug Administration has tested, 50 percent contained the sticky substance as of November 8th. Recent data from Utah found the chemical in 89% of the THC-containing cartridges tested there.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is a federal agency that conducts and supports health promotion, prevention and preparedness activities in the United States, with the goal of improving overall public health. To learn more about the CDC please visit www.cdc.gov.

SAFE, Inc. is the only alcohol and substance abuse prevention, intervention and education agency in the City of Glen Cove. Its Coalition is concerned about vaping and seeks to educate and update the community regarding its negative consequences. To learn more about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition please follow us on www.facebook.com/safeglencovecoalition or visit the Vape Page of SAFE's website to learn more about how it's detrimental to your health www.safeglencove.org.