

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 12, 2022

CONTACT: Dr. Sharon Harris

516- 676-2008 safeglencove@yahoo.com

SAFE Glen Cove Coalition Seeks to Raise Awareness of Adolescent Use of Flavored Non-Tobacco Oral Nicotine Products

A recent study published in the American Pediatrics Association Journal found flavored non-tobacco oral nicotine products (eg, nicotine pouches and nontherapeutic nicotine gum, lozenges, tablets, gummies), are increasingly marketed in the United States. However, the exact prevalence of non-tobacco oral nicotine product use among adolescents is still unknown.

Researchers calculated prevalence of ever and past 6-month use of nicotine pouches, other non-tobacco oral nicotine products (ie, gum, lozenges, tablets, and/or gummies), e-cigarettes, cigarettes, hookah or waterpipe, cigars, cigarillos, and snus among high school students in Southern California between September and December 2021. They generalized linear mixed models tested associations of sociodemographic factors and tobacco-product use with use of any non-tobacco oral nicotine product.

The data is from an ongoing survey study of behavioral health among Southern California adolescents. Students were recruited in ninth grade from a total of 11 schools in 7 school districts from Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, or Imperial counties. Recruitment of ninth grade adolescents was conducted in 2 waves. In the first recruitment wave during the 2020 to 2021 academic year, ninth graders enrolled at participating schools were eligible. The second recruitment wave involved a new population of ninth graders enrolled in a subset of 4 participating schools that took place during Fall 2021 of the 2021 to 2022 academic year. 3,764 students completed in- classroom surveys collected on site at their respective schools. Students absent during data collection days were sent a link to the survey and invited to complete the survey remotely outside of their class time.

The findings demonstrated prevalence was highest for e-cigarettes followed by non-tobacco oral nicotine products other products. Ever users of combustible tobacco and ever users of noncombustible tobacco had higher odds of ever using non-tobacco oral nicotine products, compared to never users of combustible and noncombustible tobacco. The researchers concluded that Non-tobacco oral nicotine products were the second most prevalent nicotine product used by adolescents. They were disproportionately used by certain racial or ethnic, sexual, or gender minority groups, and those with a history of nicotine use.

Researchers recommend adolescent non-tobacco oral nicotine product use surveillance should be a public health priority.

The New York State Smokers' Quitline assists thousands of New Yorkers every year in their attempts to break free from smoking and other tobacco use by providing information, expert quit coaching, support, and free starter kits of nicotine replacement therapy. The service is free and confidential. Call 1-866-NYQUITS (1-866-697-8487), text 716-309-4688, or visit the New York State Smokers' Quitline

For Quit/Cessation help and other educational resources please contact The American Lung Association at 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872)

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 tobacco use and vaping seeking to educate and update the community regarding its negative consequences in collaboration with Carol Meschkow, Manager- Tobacco Action Coalition of Long Island. To learn more about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition please follow us on ww.facebook.com/safeglencovecoalition or visit www.safeglencove.org.