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COMM 101
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Fall 2014
1) Enter your search terms.
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3) Under ‘Content Type’, uncheck ‘Select All’.
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SAFETY OF E-CIGARETTES HAS YET TO BE ESTABLISHED

BYLINE: Dr. Anthony Komaroff

SECTION: HEALTH SCIENCE MEDICINE & TECHNOLOGY; ASK DOCTOR K; Pg. A-10

LENGTH: 465 words

DEAR DOCTOR K: I caught my son and his friends smoking e-cigarettes. My son tells me I have no reason to worry, and that they're safer than regular cigarettes. What exactly are e-cigarettes? Are they safe? DEAR READER: E-cigarettes are battery-operated devices that look like cigarettes. They are built around a heating element, a cartridge that contains nicotine and other chemicals, and an atomizer that converts the chemicals into a vapor. Instead of inhaling smoke from e-cigarettes, the user inhales this vapor.

Both regular and e-cigarettes contain nicotine - the substance that smokers become addicted to. E-cigarette smokers inhale nicotine, water and propylene glycol. But, unlike smokers of regular cigarettes, they don't inhale tar, carbon monoxide, or the thousands of other substances in tobacco smoke that can cause cancer.

It's for this reason that e-cigarettes have been marketed as safe, or safer than cigarettes. It's true that e-cigarettes can provide a nicotine fix without exposing users to cancer causing tobacco.