

Peer Review

Review of: "E-cigarette"

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I would prefer to restrict the definition of “e-cigarette” to vaping products that contain nicotine (or are marketed as 0% nicotine), as this more closely reflects the use of the term in common parlance and the use of the word “cigarette”, which is strongly associated with tobacco and hence nicotine use.

Definition:

An electronic vaping device that is hand held and produces for inhalation an aerosol formed by heating an e-liquid using a battery-powered heating coil.

Further elaboration:

E-cigarettes do not necessarily contain nicotine or any pharmacologically active substance.

I have just reviewed a paper that referred to a “tiletamine e-cigarette^[1]”. Tiletamine is a psychoactive substance unrelated to nicotine: a dissociative anaesthetic agent that falls under the drug category of NMDA receptor antagonists. Tiletamine is chemically similar to another dissociative anaesthetic, ketamine.^[2]

The more generic term “vape” would better describe such products, in my opinion.

A further problem with the AddictO definition is the list of synonyms for e-cigarette. These are not synonyms but related or adjacent terms with distinct meanings – some of which are synonyms with each other, but not all are synonyms with “e-cigarette” as defined. Most but not all refer to nicotine devices:

- electronic cigarette
- vape
- nicotine vaping device
- alternative nicotine vaping device
- electronic nicotine vaping device

- electronic vaping device
- alternative nicotine delivery system
- ANDS
- electronic nicotine delivery system
- ENDS
- nicotine vaping product
- NVP

References

1. [^]Bojie Zhou, Shanghao Yang, Xiafeng Zhou, Qian Chen, et al. (2025). Severe tremors induced by tiletamine e-cigarette and alcohol use: a case report. *Front. Psychiatry*, vol. 16 . doi:10.3389/fpsyt.2025.1537822.
2. [^]Tiletamine. (2025). DrugBank. DrugBank.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.