

House of Delegates

Policies Approved by the November 2016

ASHP Virtual House of Delegates

November 21, 2016

1625

Tobacco, Tobacco Products, and Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems

Source: Council on Therapeutics

To discourage the use, distribution, and sale of tobacco, tobacco products, and electronic nicotine delivery systems (e.g., vaporizers, vape pens, hookah pens, and electronic cigarettes and pipes) in and by pharmacies; further,

To advocate for tobacco-free environments in hospitals and health systems; further,

To seek, within the bounds of public law and policy, to eliminate the use and distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, and electronic nicotine delivery systems in meeting rooms and corridors at ASHP-sponsored events; further,

To promote the role of pharmacists in tobacco-cessation counseling and medication therapy management; further,

To join with other interested organizations in statements and expressions of opposition to the use of tobacco, tobacco products, and electronic nicotine delivery systems.

This policy supersedes ASHP policy 1224.

Rationale

Pharmacists, as healthcare providers, have long discouraged the use of tobacco and tobacco products as a threat to public health. Electronic nicotine delivery systems (e.g., vaporizers, vape pens, hookah pens, and electronic cigarettes and pipes) are new and unregulated delivery systems for nicotine. The contents of these systems include flavorings, propylene glycol, glycerin, and other unknown ingredients, and the long-term effects of their use have not been studied. Given these uncertainties, pharmacists should discourage their use as well.

Further, pharmacists have a role in recommending and managing drug therapy to support cessation of nicotine-containing products, including tobacco and electronic nicotine

delivery systems, as described in the [ASHP Therapeutic Position Statement on Cessation of Tobacco Use](#). Newer therapies, including varenicline, are associated with more and evolving safety risks when compared to nicotine replacement therapies. Given the complexity of drug therapy, pharmacists should play a central role in ensuring the safe and appropriate use of these therapies.

1626**ASHP Statement on Telepharmacy**

Source: Section of Pharmacy Informatics and Technology

To approve the [ASHP Statement on Telepharmacy](#).