An Analysis of Federal Regulatory Options for Electronic Cigarettes

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Purpose & Scope



VAPING: TOWARDS A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR E-CIGARETTES

Report of the Standing Committee on Health

Ben Lobb Chair

MARCH 2015
41st PARLIAMENT, SECOND SESSION

- Purpose
 - Determine best regulatory option
- Scope
 - Analysis of 4 proposed options
 - Not to discuss implementation steps or advocacy approaches

Federal Report

- How to regulate
 - ► Tobacco Act
 - Medical Devices Regulations
 - Canada Consumer Product & Safety Act
 - New Regulatory Framework
- What to regulate

What to regulate?

Restricted Access & Use

- Prohibit e-cigarette sales to minors
- Prohibit e-cigarette use in federally regulated public spaces

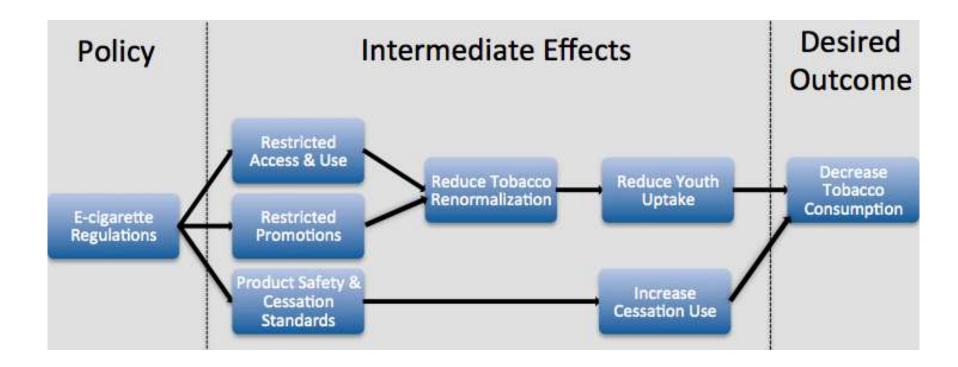
Restricted Promotions

- Prohibit false health claims
- Prohibit cross-branding with tobacco brands
- E-cigarettes must be visually distinct from tobacco products
- Advertising, display and promotions restrictions
- Nicotine labeling standards
- Safety warnings (i.e., nicotine is addictive, keep away from children)
- No youth appealing flavours*

Product Safety Standards

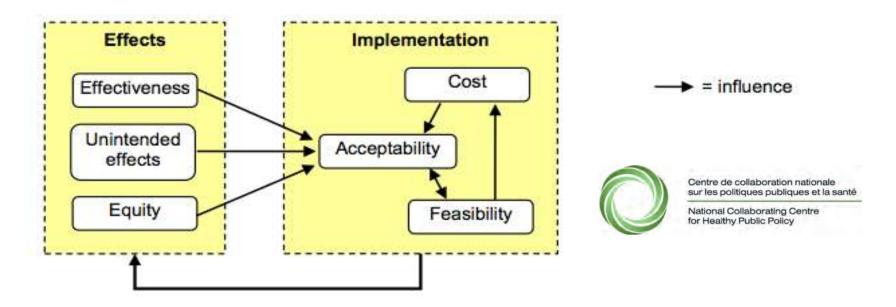
- Safe and sanitary manufacturing process
- Information disclosure to Ministry
- Maximum Nicotine levels
- Ministry must have ability to recall products if deemed harmful or unsafe
- Mandatory problem reporting to ministry
- Child-resistant and secure packaging
- Ensure risks to users and others are eliminated or minimized
- Prohibit youth appealing flavours*

What is the big picture?



Methodology

A framework for Analyzing Public Policies: A Practical Guide



The following discussion will pertain to the main conclusions from the analysis

Results

| Regulatory framework | Effectiveness | Unintended Effects | Cost | Feasibility | Acceptability |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|------|-------------|----------------------|
| Canada | + | +++ | + | | Highly Unacceptable |
| Consumer | | | | | |
| Product Safety | | | | | |
| Act | | | | | |
| Tobacco Act | ++ | + + | ++ | ++ | Partially Acceptable |
| Medical | +++ | + | +++ | + | Very Acceptable |
| Devices | | | | | |
| Regulations | | | | | |
| New | +++ | - | +++ | +++ | Most Acceptable |
| Regulation | | | | | |

Consumer Product & Safety Act



- ► Highly Unacceptable
- E-cigarettes as a "consumer product"
- Poor compliance and inappropriate

Tobacco Act



- Partially Acceptable
- Treat e-cigarettes as a "tobacco product"
- Would not support cessation

Medical Devices Regulations



- Very Acceptable
- Under the Food & Drugs Act
- Prescriptions would be burdensome

New Framework

- New set of regulations under the Food & Drugs Act
- Follow Medical Device Regulations' rules for product/cessation standards
 - No prescriptions
- Restrict access and use (similar to Tobacco Act)
- Cessation-friendly marketing & promotion
- Highly Acceptable and recommended option

Strengths & Limitations

- Strengths
 - Valid analysis framework
 - Builds off last federal report on e-cigarettes
- Limitations
 - Could benefit from NRT regulations
 - New framework based on previous options
 - Research still needed
 - Needs strong enforcement by Health Canada

Conclusion



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- Academic analysis of four possible regulatory options
- New framework balances benefits and harms
- Future work should be on implementation and advocacy

Thank You