

# Italy bans sale of electronic cigarettes to minors

June 27 2013

---

Italy banned the sale of electronic cigarettes containing nicotine to minors on Thursday and forbid their use in schools, amid criticism from a consumer watchdog that the move did not go far enough.

Health Minister Beatrice Lorenzin "bans the sale of electronic cigarettes with [nicotine](#) to minors under the age of 18," her ministry said in a statement.

"We don't want to say that electronic cigarettes are more dangerous than normal cigarettes but they should not be used as harmless objects," Lorenzin told Rai television.

"People need to be informed about what they use... water and aroma (capsules) are one thing, but nicotine can create dependencies," she added.

Italian consumer association Codacons criticised the new law as "utterly insufficient".

"E-cigarettes should be banned in all public places, just like normal [cigarettes](#). It's not clear why the ministry believes they are dangerous, and therefore should be banned in schools, but not in other places open to the public," Codacons president Carlo Rienzi said.

© 2013 AFP

Citation: Italy bans sale of electronic cigarettes to minors (2013, June 27) retrieved 2 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2013-06-italy-sale-electronic-cigarettes-minors.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.