

Virus outbreak delays US government review of e-cigarettes

April 23 2020, by Matthew Perrone



In this Thursday, Jan. 2, 2020 file photo, vaping devices are displayed at a store in New York. On Thursday, April 23, 2020, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said that a federal court accepted its request to push back the May 12 deadline to submit vaping product applications to Sept. 9. The agency said the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed preparations to meet the deadline for both companies and FDA staff. (AP Photo/Mary Altaffer)

Electronic cigarette companies will have four additional months to submit their products for government review because of delays tied to the coronavirus outbreak.

The Food and Drug Administration said Thursday that a [federal court](#) accepted its request to push back the May 12 deadline to submit vaping product applications to Sept. 9.

The agency said the COVID-19 pandemic has caused delays for the companies and FDA staff.

The review is part of the FDA's yearslong effort to regulate the multibillion-dollar vaping industry, which includes thousands of e-cigarette devices and flavored solutions. E-cigarettes first appeared in the U.S. more than a decade ago and have grown in popularity with minimal federal regulation.

After a surge in underage vaping, health advocacy groups successfully sued the FDA last year to speed up its review of [vaping](#) products. The court ordered the FDA to set the May 12 application deadline.

FDA Commissioner Dr. Stephen Hahn said in a statement that [e-cigarette](#) companies have reported problems completing their research because of travel restrictions and limited laboratory access. Hahn also explained that many FDA staff who would have reviewed the applications are assisting with the pandemic response.

© 2020 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

Citation: Virus outbreak delays US government review of e-cigarettes (2020, April 23) retrieved 15 May 2024 from <https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-04-virus-outbreak-e-cigarettes.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.