

Teen vaping doubles risk for subsequent tobacco use

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(HealthDay)—Adolescent boys who use electronic cigarettes have an

increased risk for subsequently initiating traditional tobacco products, according to a study published online Dec. 8 in *Addictive Behaviors*.

Brittney Keller-Hamilton, M.P.H., from the Comprehensive Cancer Center at The Ohio State University in Columbus, and colleagues used a causal inference framework to identify whether male adolescent e-cigarette users were at [increased risk](#) for initiating cigarette smoking and smokeless tobacco (SLT) use compared with similar boys who had never used e-cigarettes. The analysis included 1,220 boys (aged 11 to 16 years at enrollment) followed every six months for two years.

The researchers found that compared with nonusers, e-cigarette users were more than twice as likely to later initiate both cigarette smoking (relative risk [RR], 2.71) and SLT (RR, 2.42). E-cigarette users were also more likely to become current (past 30 days) [cigarette smokers](#) (RR, 2.20) and SLT users (RR, 1.64).

"It is important to remain vigilant in seeking strategies and policies to prevent teens from starting habits that pose a threat to their health, particularly when they serve as a stepping stone to more harmful tobacco products," Keller-Hamilton said in a statement.

More information: [Abstract/Full Text \(subscription or payment may be required\)](#)

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