



**Tobacco Free Partnership of
 Indian River County**

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Partnership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

2:00pm – 3:00pm

United Way of IRC, 1836 14th Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960



Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marie Blanchard, FL Dept of Health • Theresa Woodson, ACS • Michelle Bollinger, IRMC • Nancy C Johnson, Plan B Business Solutions • Dr. Lillian Torres-Martinez, School District, IRC • Leslie Spurlock, Quit Doc
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Topic	Discussion	Action
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Agenda Items		
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1. Welcome	Introductions All were welcomed.
2. Old Business	Old Business a) Minutes of December’s meeting were reviewed and approved as written.
3. New Business	b) Strategy Plan for Smokeless Tobacco Goal. Indian River is focused on obtaining policies from sports leagues; youth and/or adult. Gifford Aquatic Center is the only venue that has a statement on the website that restricts use of ‘tobacco products’. A strategy power mapping was introduced with names of city and county recreation administrators. In order to focus future education, we need to know who is influential and how supportive they are to implementing a tobacco free policy in the leagues they oversee. c) Through with Chew Proclamations Week; Feb 15-20, 2016. Mark your calendars to attend proclamations from the County 2/16 at 9am, City of Vero Beach 2/16 at 6pm, City of Sebastian 2/10 at 6pm. “Smokeless is not harmless”. SWAT youth will be asked to present a short power point to government officials.

Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Awards. We are waiting on a definite date, but it appears an early release day may be a good opportunity to be able bring in SWAT youth.
Comments, Observations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relay for Life. Chance drawings can be used to raise funds. Baskets containing gift cards, or themed baskets for men, women, golfers, car enthusiasts, stay-cations, are some ideas. Track Markers at \$100 per sign can be given back to the business afterwards to display.
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store Assessments. Members shared their stories of store assessment successes and challenges. Tips: talk about all products you are looking at starting with food and

	<p>beverages first. Remember to use the letter of introduction if needed. One shop manager feared being fired if she provided access. Another described the complex process for getting permission from corporate and then said it would be denied anyway. Overall people were mostly cooperative. Some non-traditional locations surveyed were found to have a license because they previously sold tobacco or they are preparing to sell tobacco or "accessories".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Electronic Cigarette Research. New Harvard research indicates electronic cigarette flavorings contain the same chemical found to cause "popcorn lung", a permanent disease in popcorn factory workers. The rate of e-cigarette use among youth is above the rate of traditional tobacco products. See attached article.
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm

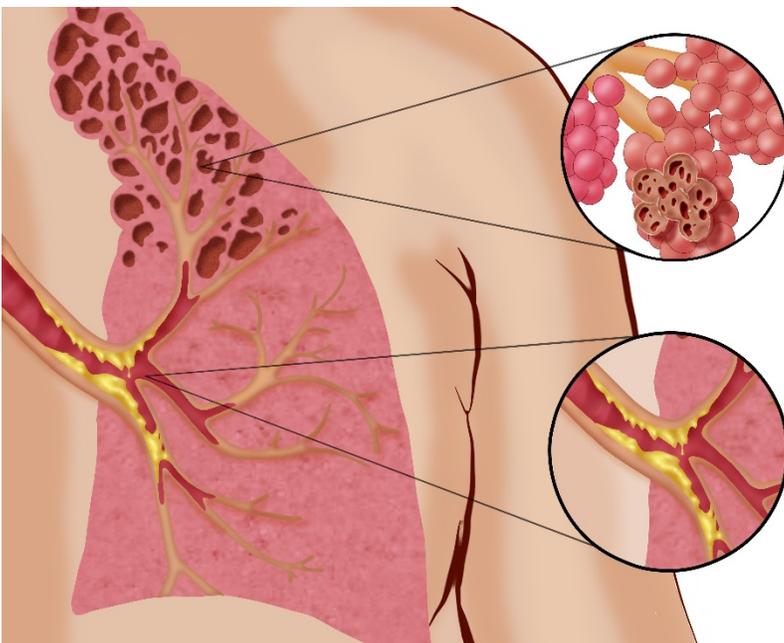
Study links e-cigarettes to incurable disease called 'Popcorn Lung'

E-cigarettes are often touted as a safer alternative to traditional cigarettes, but according to a study released by the Harvard School of Public Health, they may just pose a different threat than their nicotine-filled counterparts.

According to the study, 75 percent of flavored e-cigarettes and their refill liquids were found to contain Diacetyl, "a flavoring chemical linked to cases of severe respiratory disease" such as the incurable condition called "Popcorn Lung."

SEE ALSO: With feds slow to act, states target e-cigarette sales to minors

According to Harvard, the condition otherwise known as bronchiolitis obliterans was "colloquially termed "Popcorn Lung" because it first appeared in workers who inhaled artificial butter flavor in microwave popcorn processing facilities."



But despite the name of the disease, there is absolutely nothing savory about it. Popcorn Lung is a debilitating and irreversible respiratory disease which causes "scarring in tiny air sacs in the lungs that lead to excessive coughing and shortness of breath" similar to that seen in people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), a common lung disease where breathing is difficult.

In analyzing 51 different flavored e-cigarettes, author of the study Joseph Allen and his team found at least one of three top toxins — diacetyl, acetoin and 2,3-pentanedione — in 47 of the e-cigs. Not only that, "the amount of diacetyl in 39 of the e-cigs exceeded the amount that was able to be detected by the laboratory."

"Diacetyl and other related flavoring chemicals are used in many other flavors beyond butter-flavored popcorn, including fruit flavors, alcohol flavors, and candy flavored e-cigarettes," said Allen, assistant professor of exposure assessment science at Harvard.

He found this particularly disturbing because of the appeal fruity e-cigarettes such as "Cotton Candy, Fruit Squirts, and Cupcake" may have to young people.

Since e-cigarettes are a fairly new technology, the study's co-author David Christiani, Elkan Blout Professor of Environmental Genetics, warns that Popcorn Lung may be just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the dangers e-cigs pose to their users:

Since most of the health concerns about e-cigarettes have focused on nicotine, there is still much we do not know about e-cigarettes. In addition to containing varying levels of the addictive substance nicotine, they also contain other cancer-causing chemicals, such as formaldehyde, and as our study shows, flavoring chemicals that can cause lung damage.

Based on that, it might be best to try and kick the habit ASAP.