



**Tobacco Free Partnership of  
 Indian River County**

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**Partnership Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 3, 2016**

**2:00pm – 3:00pm**

**United Way of IRC, 1836 14<sup>th</sup> Ave, Vero Beach, FL 32960**

<b>Attendance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marie Blanchard, FL Dept of Health</li> <li>• Linda Young, FL Dept of Health</li> <li>• Michelle Bollinger, IRMC</li> <li>• Nancy C Johnson, Plan B Business Solutions</li> </ul>
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Topic	Discussion	Action
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<b>Agenda Items</b>		
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<b>1. Welcome</b>	<b>Introductions</b> All were welcomed.
<b>2. Old Business</b>	<b>Old Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Minutes of January’s meeting were reviewed. Nancy moved to approve, Marie seconded and they were approved as written.</li> <li>b) Pledge cards need to be reformatted. Marie offered to do it and hand out at the SWAT meeting tomorrow.</li> <li>c) Nancy Johnson announced she has 500 bags from Bay Street Pharmacy that she will stuff with band aids and 3 Ways to Quit cards. They can be handed out at events and by Partners.</li> <li>d) Marie Blanchard requested Nancy Johnson attend her Oslo student meeting on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 2:45pm and the SWAT kids stuff the bags. Theresa Woodson will be there having students design Luminary bags for Relay for Life.</li> </ul>
<b>3. New Business</b>	<b>New Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Letter to Editor: The group read through the letter and all liked it.</li> </ul>

<b>Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Awards Ceremony was discussed. It is best to go to each school and hand out awards to students who have contributed rather than trying to take them off campus. It was suggested we take photos and submit them to the newspaper. Students who help really deserve to be recognized in front of the entire student body. May 5, 2016 is a possible date for Oslo Middle School’s awards.</li> </ul>
<b>Comments, Observations</b>	
<b>Announcements</b>	

<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm
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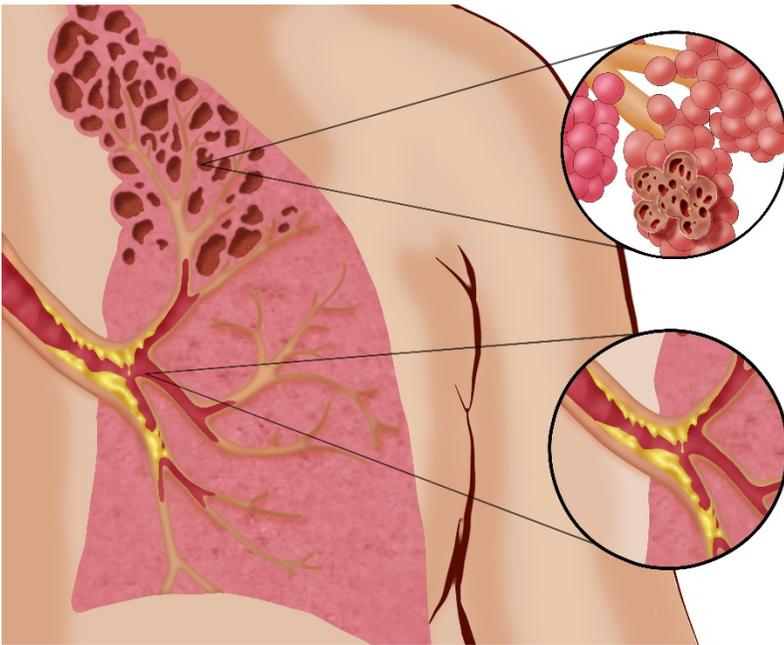
# Study links e-cigarettes to incurable disease called 'Popcorn Lung'

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.