

# Health Advocates Criticize FDA Approval of Menthol Vapes

### **Description**

The Food and Drug Administration recently approved the first menthol-flavored e-cigarette products, a decision that has sparked controversy among public health advocates. The approval includes two disposable e-cigarettes and two pre-filled e-cigarette pods from NJOY, a subsidiary of tobacco giant Altria Group. This move comes amidst growing concerns over the FDA's handling of e-cigarette regulations, particularly in light of the increasing popularity of flavored vaping products among young people.

The FDA's decision is based on the belief that e-cigarettes can help adult smokers quit smoking tobacco, thereby reducing the health risks associated with traditional cigarettes. The agency emphasized that the approval does not mean these products are safe, as all tobacco products can be harmful and addictive.

Critics of the decision, such as Yolonda C. Richardson from the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, argue that flavored e-cigarettes, including menthol, appeal to young people and contribute to the youth vaping epidemic. Senator Dick Durbin expressed concerns that the authorization of menthol-flavored vapes could lead to more children becoming addicted to harmful products.

On the other hand, Altria executives welcomed the FDA's decision, stating that it provides adult smokers with regulated alternatives to illicit vaping products. They believe that for tobacco harm reduction to succeed, smokers must have access to a variety of FDA-authorized smoke-free alternatives.

The controversial approval of menthol-flavored e-cigarette products has reignited the debate over the regulation of vaping products and their impact on public health. As the industry continues to evolve, it remains to be seen how this decision will shape the future of e-cigarettes in the United States.

# **Vocabulary List:**

- 1. Controversy /'kpntrəv3:si/ (noun): A disagreement or argument often involving differing opinions.
- 2. Regulations /ˌrɛgjʊˈleɪʃənz/ (noun): Rules or directives made and maintained by an authority.
- 3. **Emphasized** /'ɛmfəˌsaɪzd/ (verb): Made something more noticeable or prominent.
- 4. Addictive /əˈdɪktɪv/ (adjective): Causing or likely to cause addiction.
- 5. **Epidemic** / ερι'dεmɪk/ (noun): A widespread occurrence of an infectious disease or harmful behavior in a community.
- 6. Alternatives /o:l'tarnativz/ (noun): One of two or more available possibilities.

# **Comprehension Questions**



## **Multiple Choice**

1. Who recently approved the first menthol-flavored e-cigarette products?

Option: FDA
Option: CDC
Option: WHO
Option: NIH

2. How many disposable e-cigarettes were included in the FDA's approval?

Option: One Option: Two Option: Three Option: Four

3. Which company's subsidiary is NJOY the manufacturer of the approved e-cigarettes?

Option: Philip Morris International

Option: Altria Group

Option: British American Tobacco
Option: Japan Tobacco International

4. What is the basis of the FDA's decision to approve menthol-flavored e-cigarettes?

Option: They are completely safe for consumption

Option: They can help adult smokers quit smoking tobacco

Option: They are only for young people

Option: They are not addictive

5. Who expressed concerns that menthol-flavored vapes could lead to more children becoming addicted?

Option: Yolonda C. Richardson

Option: Altria executives
Option: Senator Dick Durbin

Option: FDA officials

6. Why did Altria executives welcome the FDA's decision?

Option: To target young people
Option: To promote flavored vapes

Option: To provide regulated alternatives to illicit vaping products

Option: To reduce government control



### Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. FDA 2. Two 3. Altria Group 4. They can help adult smokers guit smoking tobacco 5. Senator Dick Durbin 6. To provide regulated alternatives to illicit vaping products

## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. Who are individuals that expose secretive information within an organization?

Option: Employees Option: Investors

Option: Government officials

**Option: Competitors** 

2. What term refers to the maximum amount that a company can produce given its resources? SL-NEWS

Option: Sales volume Option: Market share Option: Profit margin

Option: Production capacity

3. What is a sudden increase in the number of cases of a disease above what is normally expected in a population?

Option: Outbreak Option: Endemic Option: Pandemic Option: Epidemic

4. What are official rules and laws that control how things are done or what is acceptable in a particular country or activity?

Option: Standards **Option: Principles** Option: Regulations Option: Guidelines

5. What term describes a prolonged public dispute or debate often involving differing views?



| Option: Agreement   |
|---------------------|
| Option: Consensus   |
| Option: Resolution  |
| Option: Controversy |

6. What is the formal approval or permission to do something?

Option: Restriction Option: Denial Option: License

Option: Authorization

7. What is an option or choice that can be taken instead of something else?

Option: Imposition Option: Consequence Option: Alternative Option: Compromise

NEWS.COM 8. Who is a person officially charged with a crime in a court of law?

Option: Defendant Option: Witness Option: Judge Option: Accused

9. What is the quality of being thankful and showing appreciation?

Option: Complacency Option: Indifference Option: Entitlement Option: Gratitude

10. What is the act of officially giving someone the power to do something?

Option: Empowerment Option: Deprivation

Option: Disempowerment Option: Authorization

### Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

| $11.$ The company experienced a $\_\_\_$ | increase in profits last quarter.           |  |
|--|---|--|
|  |   |  |
| 12. It is essential to                   | tasks based on their importance and urgency |  |



| 13. Optimizing the of resources is crucial for efficiency.   |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| 14. The authorities reported two in the accident.  |  |  |
| 15. We need to consider an solution to this recurring problem.                                       |  |  |
| 16. The team presented their findings at the conference.   |  |  |
| 17. The artist's work is often considered and innovative.  |  |  |
| 18. The renowned scientist's have continued his legacy in research.                                  |  |  |
| 19. Rising can have a significant impact on consumer purchasing power.                               |  |  |
| 20. The media coverage was filled with statements against the political figure.                      |  |  |
| Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )           |  |  |
| 21. The agreement between the two parties was based on specific terms and conditions.                |  |  |
| 22. Providing a supportive environment that encourages innovative thinking and original ideas.       |  |  |
| 23. A tragic and unexplained phenomenon primarily affecting infants during sleep.                    |  |  |
| 24. Taking corrective actions to fix errors or resolve issues in a systematic manner.                |  |  |
| 25. Generating discussions and theories about possible outcomes or scenarios.                        |  |  |
| 26. An analysis of the anticipated financial conditions and trends in a specific region or globally. |  |  |
| 27. Placing special importance on a particular aspect or idea to bring attention to it.              |  |  |
| 28. Spread throughout or infused into every part of a system or organization.                        |  |  |
| 29. A company that is controlled by another larger company known as the parent company.              |  |  |
| 30. Close and critical examination or observation of something.                                      |  |  |

## **Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Employees 2. Production capacity 3. Epidemic 4. Regulations 5. Controversy 6. Authorization



7. Alternative 8. Accused 9. Gratitude 10. Authorization

**Gap-Fill:** 11. substantial 12. prioritize 13. utilization 14. fatalities 15. alternative 16. preliminary 17. avantgarde 18. progeny 19. inflation 20. accusing

**Matching sentence:** 1. Contractual 2. Fostering creativity 3. Sudden infant death syndrome 4. Rectifying 5. Sparking speculation 6. Economic outlook 7. Emphasizing 8. Permeated 9. Subsidiary 10. Scrutiny

#### **CATEGORY**

1. Business - LEVEL6

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