



香港私人執業專科醫生協會  
**Association of Private Medical Specialists of Hong Kong**

**President**  
Dr Samuel PY KWOK

8 April 2019

**Vice-President**  
Dr Ricky WK CHAN

Hon KWOK Wai-keung, JP  
Chairman  
Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019  
Legislative Council  
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China

**Honorary Secretary**  
Dr Carrel KL YU

**Honorary Treasurer**  
Dr TSE Tak Fu

Dear Mr Kwok,

**Council Members**  
Dr CHAN Chor Man  
Dr Jane CK CHAN  
Dr Kenneth KF FU  
Dr Kelvin KL HO  
Dr HO Yu Cheung  
Dr Alex Y HUI  
Dr LAM Kui Chun  
Dr Kevin CH LAU  
Dr LEE Siu Wing  
Dr Danny WH LEE  
Dr LEE Yuk Tong  
Dr Carina CF LI  
Dr Jeffrey CF PONG  
Dr TSANG Man Wo  
Dr Veronica YC WAI  
Dr Matthew KY WONG

**Second Meeting on Saturday, 13 April 2019**  
**Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019**

We, the Association of Private Medical Specialists of Hong Kong (APMSHK), strongly requests the total ban all forms of E-cigarettes and heat-not-burn cigarettes.

- (1) E-cigarette use, particularly in the young, is associated with future cigarette use.
- (2) Over half of the people interested in heat-not-burn cigarettes are never-smokers.
- (3) Both e-cigarettes and heat-not-burn cigarettes may represent a gateway for nicotine addiction among never-smokers rather than a substitute used for harm-reduction purposes in current smokers.
- (4) E-cigarette vapour contains high level of toxic compounds, which adversely affect respiratory, gastrointestinal and cardiovascular systems both in vitro and in vivo.
- (5) Since heat-not-burn cigarette use is comparatively new, it will take years before we start to know its detrimental effect on human health. Nevertheless, there is very recent data showing for the first time that heat-not-burn cigarette exposure is as detrimental as cigarette smoking and vaping to human lung cells. Persistent allergic, smoke, or environmental-triggered inflammation leads to airway remodelling/scarring through re-organization of extracellular matrix and airway cell proliferation, and mitochondrial dysfunction plays a pivotal role in this process. These are the principal causes for airflow limitation in asthma and COPD.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Samuel Kwok  
President  
Association of Private Medical Specialists of Hong Kong

**Submission: Bill Committee on Smoking Bill 2019 (13 Apr)**

Association of Private Medical Specialists of Hong Kong (APMHK) strongly requests the total ban all forms of E-cigarettes and heat-not-burn cigarettes.

- (1) "E-cigarette use, particularly in the young, is associated with future cigarette use."
- (2) "Over half of the people interested in heat-not-burn cigarettes are never-smokers."
- (3) "Both e-cigarettes and heat-not-burn cigarettes may represent a gateway for nicotine addiction among never-smokers rather than a substitute used for harm-reduction purposes in current smokers."
- (4) "E-cigarette vapour contains high level of toxic compounds, which adversely affect respiratory, gastrointestinal and cardiovascular systems both in vitro and in vivo."
- (5) "Since heat-not-burn cigarette use is comparatively new, it will take years before we start to know its detrimental effect on human health. Nevertheless, there is very recent data showing for the first time that heat-not-burn cigarette exposure is as detrimental as cigarette smoking and vaping to human lung cells. Persistent allergic, smoke, or environmental-triggered inflammation leads to airway remodelling/scarring through re-organization of extracellular matrix and airway cell proliferation, and mitochondrial dysfunction plays a pivotal role in this process. These are the principal causes for airflow limitation in asthma and COPD."

(1) 吸電子煙與日後形成吸煙習慣有關，於年輕人尤甚。

(2) 有意吸食加熱非燃燒煙者，其中超過半數從來沒有吸煙習慣。

(3) 吸食電子煙和加熱非燃燒煙，或會對從無吸煙習慣者產生尼古丁成癮作用，其實無法作為危害較少的替代品。

(4) 電子煙氣霧含有高度有毒化合物，無論在體外抑或體內，均對呼吸、腸胃，以及心肺系統產生不良影響。

(5) 加熱非燃燒煙乃新生事物，須經多年後才能掌握其對人類健康的不良影響。不過，近期首次有數據顯示，接觸加熱非燃燒煙對人類肺細胞有害，與吸煙和吸食電子煙無異。由經常敏感、吸煙，或環境所引致的發炎，基於細胞外基質重組以及呼吸道細胞增生，可造成呼吸道重塑或結痂，而線粒體功能失調在此過程中則具有關鍵作用。以上為哮喘以及慢性阻塞性肺病導致患者呼吸受阻的主因。