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Health advisory for vaping products

Health Canada is [advising](#) Canadians who use vaping products to monitor themselves for symptoms of pulmonary illness including coughing, shortness of breath, chest pain, nausea and dizziness. Canadians should seek medical attention **promptly** if they have concerns about their health. Cases of **acute pulmonary illnesses** and **several deaths** reportedly linked to the use of vaping products have been reported in the United States. **Ontario has confirmed its first case of vaping-related pulmonary illness.**

Health Minister Christine Elliott has **ordered** Ontario hospitals to **report** all cases of **vaping-related pulmonary illness** to the **Chief Medical Officer of Health** as per section 77.7.1 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*. Healthcare professionals are reminded to ask patients about any use of electronic cigarettes and vaping products when presented with respiratory symptoms, especially when the cause is unclear.

Vaping is the act of inhaling and exhaling an aerosol produced by a vaping product, such as an e-cigarette. Vaping does not require burning the way cigarette smoking does. The device heats a liquid into a vapour, which then turns into an aerosol. This vapour may contain flavourings, diacetyl, propylene glycol, vegetable glycerin, tetrahydrocannabinol (THC - the psychoactive component of cannabis), or nicotine.

Recent surveys indicate **15%** of Canadians have tried a vaping product. Among youth and young adults, vaping usage has increased by **74%** in one year.

More information is available on the Health Canada [website](#).

Health care provider resources now available to order online durham.ca/HCP.

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711, 1-800-841-2729

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If you prefer to receive this information in an electronic format please submit your request to healthresources@durham.ca

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.