



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION



10 April 2013

**FDA Advisory**  
No. 2013-008

**SUBJECT: ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES AND R.A. No. 9211,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TOBACCO ACT OF 2003**

Contrary to what some marketers of the electronic cigarette imply in their advertisements, the World Health Organization (WHO) does not consider it to be a legitimate therapy for smokers trying to quit. "The electronic cigarette is not a proven nicotine replacement therapy," said Dr Ala Alwan, Assistant Director-General of WHO's Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health Cluster. "WHO has no scientific evidence to confirm the product's safety and efficacy. Its marketers should immediately remove from their web sites and other informational materials any suggestion that WHO considers it to be a safe and effective smoking cessation aid."

The FDA has not registered any electronic cigarette products and will not register them as health products (R.A. 9711, The FDA Act of 2009).

The electronic cigarette is contrary to the intent and provisions of Republic Act No. 9211, otherwise known as the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003. Among others, R.A. No. 9211 is intended to protect the youth from nicotine addiction and chronic respiratory diseases, including cancer, brought about by inhalation of thousands of highly toxic substances found in tobacco and cigarettes. Wittingly or unwittingly, the electronic cigarette promotes smoking among children and the youth. It makes them less fearful of hazards and risks of smoking. It is opposed to the DOH health goal to stop cigarette smoking and tobacco use.

The public is advised NOT to smoke at all and NOT to use cigarettes, cigars, or e-cigarettes.

  
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