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Impact of electronic cigarettes among University students in Bangladesh

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The use of electronic cigarettes has becoming a growing trend especially by young people. Electronic cigarettes are the most common prototype of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) which deliver an aerosol by heating a solution that users inhale. The main constituents of the solution in addition to nicotine when nicotine is present are propylene glycol, with or without glycerol and flavoring agent. The aim of this research was to look at the impact of e-cigarettes among the university students in Bangladesh. A cross-sectional study was carried out using a semi structured questionnaire among the university students. The information of this research was based in primary survey. Major finding of the study suggests that 50.1% participants think e-cigarettes were great alternative where they cannot smoke traditional cigarettes and it should not banned from public places. Perception of these products as a safe alternative, appealing advertisements, and lax regulatory policies has helped gain popularity among the students. As a result, students smoker were increased at 30.7% and especially female students were increased 15.4%. In addition, this study

also revealed that 12.7% smokers used e-cigarettes and others narcotics substance. Another great finding of the study revealed that female students are more narcotics addicted than previous at 8.9% because of e-cigarettes. To solve the dilemma, more scientific studies in this field are required. Prompt regulatory response with strict vigilance on marketing and advertising may be desirable in the interest of users and public at large.

Speaker Biography

Md Mehedi Hasan has completed his MS (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) from Dhaka University, Bangladesh. He has been serving more than 6 years as assistant director in the Department of Narcotics Control (DNC), Security Services Division, Ministry of Home Affairs, Bangladesh. He has over many publications on narcotic drugs that have been cited in the departmental journals, experts of United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) developed International Standards on Drug Use Prevention (Second updated edition), did assessment along with UNODC on "Pharmaceutical drugs abuse in Bangladesh 2017 and has been serving as an editorial board member of Annual Drug Report of Bangladesh. He is focal person of DNC for International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) developed online tools International Import Export Communication System, Precursors Incident Communication System, NPS related project ION and Pre-export Notification System.

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