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MMA calls for ban on e-cigarettes

Posted: [4:55 pm, August 17, 2015](#) by [editor](#)



KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 17: The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has urged the Health Ministry to consider banning e-cigarettes as they will “very likely” cause harm.

MMA president Dr Ashok Zachariah Philip said many of the chemicals found in cigarette smoke were also found in e-cigarettes, albeit in lower doses.

“E-cigarette devices have not been marketed or studied long enough for us to quantify the harm they can do, but it is very likely there will be harm,” he said in a statement, here, Monday.

“Furthermore, nicotine containing liquids used for vaping still have the potential to cause habituation and addiction.

“Hence, the ministry should consider banning them or at the very least, regulate them as it does for conventional cigarettes,” he said.

Dr Philip said if long-term studies showed no risks, this position could be reconsidered.

Last Wednesday, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam advised the public to temporarily stop smoking shisha, e-cigarettes or vapor cigarettes until the announcement of the findings on their risks in two months’ time.

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