



LECTURES SERIES

"Vaping in North America: New Frontiers on the Geography and Context of ENDS Use"

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Since their introduction to North American markets in 2004, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS, or “e-cigarettes”) have rapidly grown popular. Recent data from Canada and the United States indicate about 14% of high school students actively use ENDS, and over 1 in 4 ENDS users “vape” every day. The proliferation of novel vaping devices and flavors with teen appeal has outpaced the adoption of regulations meant to curb adolescent nicotine use and prevent a return to the watermark in smoking prevalence from the 1990s. Data limitations prevent careful investigation of the contextual and geographic characteristics of e-cigarette use, and little is known about the genetic underpinnings of vaping. In this talk, Dr. Adam Lippert will share findings from an empirically-estimated dataset of nicotine use across Canadian communities and examine the community correlates of such use. He will also present results from a study evaluating the relative contributions of socioeconomic and polygenic risks to vaping among adults reaching mid-life in the United States. Opportunities for rethinking approaches to measuring local health environments will be discussed alongside policy options for ENDS regulation.

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