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**TO:** California Department of Public Health (CDPH), University of California (UC), and the California Department of Education (CDE)

**FROM:** Tobacco Education and Research Oversight Committee (TEROC)

**DATE:** December 8, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Position on Electronic Smoking Devices (AKA E-cigarettes)

The Tobacco Education and Research Oversight Committee (TEROC) is a legislatively mandated oversight committee (California Health and Safety Code Sections 104365-104370) that monitors the use of Proposition 99 tobacco tax revenues for tobacco control, prevention education, and tobacco-related research in California. TEROC advises the California Department of Public Health, the University of California, and the California Department of Education with respect to policy development, integration, and evaluation of tobacco education programs funded by Proposition 99. TEROC is also responsible for the development of a master plan for the future implementation of tobacco control and tobacco-related research, and making recommendations to the State Legislature for improving tobacco control and tobacco-related research efforts in California.

TEROC conducted a meeting on December 8, 2015 where the Committee deliberated, voted upon, and adopted the following official position statement regarding e-cigarettes:

***TEROC supports inclusion of electronic smoking devices in any regulation of cigarettes or other tobacco products to reinforce decades of progress in making smoking less attractive; discourage youth initiation of tobacco use; and to protect the health and safety of all Californians from the harms of all tobacco use. Furthermore, regulation should take a comprehensive public health approach by encompassing any electronic smoking device without limitation to the substance that it delivers, including but not limited to marijuana-related or marijuana substitute products.***

***In addition, TEROC is aligned with the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, which concluded that the current evidence is insufficient to recommend electronic smoking devices for tobacco cessation. (USPSTF, Ann Intern Med., 2015) Furthermore, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has not approved any electronic smoking device as a cessation aid.***

This position statement supersedes previous statements adopted by TEROC on June 13, 2013 and February 26, 2014.

If you have questions regarding this subject, please contact Michael Ong, M.D., Ph.D., Chairperson at [MOng@Mednet.ucla.edu](mailto:MOng@Mednet.ucla.edu).