

TOX/2018/52

COMMITTEE ON TOXICITY OF CHEMICALS IN FOOD, CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Potential toxicological risks from electronic nicotine (and non-nicotine) delivery systems (E(N)NDS – e-cigarettes). Recent paper hypothesising role of nicotine in schizophrenia spectrum disorders

1. The COT are currently reviewing the possible human health effects of electronic nicotine (and non-nicotine) delivery systems (E(N)NDS, 'e-cigarettes'). In July 2018, the Committee reviewed an overview of nicotine toxicity (TOX/2018/25).
2. The Secretariat has become aware of a recent review (attached at Annex A) in which there was substantial but inconclusive evidence of a causal association between tobacco smoking and schizophrenia spectrum disorders. The authors hypothesise that this association may be a result of nicotine, and highlight the potential relevance to E(N)NDS and particularly use of E(N)NDS by adolescents and young adults (Scott et al., 2018).

Questions for the Committee

3. Members are invited to comment on the information provided in the paper attached at Annex A and to consider:
 - i. Whether the Committee wishes to make any comment on this topic area when a COT statement on E(N)NDS is prepared?

**PHE COT Secretariat
November 2018**

References

Scott JG, Matuschka L, Niemelä S, Miettunen J, Emmerson B and Mustonen A (2018) Evidence of a Causal Relationship Between Smoking Tobacco and Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders. *Front. Psychiatry* 9:607.

This is a preliminary paper for discussion. It does not represent the views of the Committee and must not be quoted, cited or reproduced.

TOX/2018/52 ANNEX A

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