



Frenchtown Community Coalition

Working to create a healthy, engaged, and unified community for the youth of Frenchtown

Youth Smoking, Vaping, and COVID-19

In a recent study published by the Journal of Adolescent Health (August 11, 2020), researchers at the Stanford University School of Medicine examined the relationship between smoking, vaping, and COVID-19 in youth. Research shows that teenagers and young adults who vape face a much higher risk of COVID-19 than their peers who do not vape.

“Young people may believe their age protects them from contracting the virus or that they will not experience symptoms of COVID-19, but the data shows this isn’t true among those who vape,” said the study’s lead author, postdoctoral scholar Shivani Mathur Gaiha, PhD. “This study tells us pretty clearly that youth who are using vapes or are dual-using (e-cigarettes and cigarettes) are at elevated risk, and it’s not just a small increase in risk; it’s a big one.”



“Teens and young adults need to know that if you use e-cigarettes, you are likely at immediate risk of COVID-19 because you are damaging your lungs.” - Bonnie Halpern-Felsher, PhD

Key Findings:

- As compared to youth who reported never vaping or smoking, youth who reported vaping, smoking, or both, were at increased risk of experiencing COVID-19 symptoms (e.g., coughing, fever, tiredness, or difficulty breathing) and were more likely to have been tested for COVID-19
- Within youth tested for COVID-19, those who had vaped were five times more likely than non-users to be positively diagnosed. This increased to 6.8 times more likely to get a positive diagnosis if youth both vaped and smoked within the past 30-days.
- While smoking alone was not associated with positive COVID-19 diagnosis, this was likely due to most youth reporting either only vaping or both smoking and vaping.

To read the full article or access more information, visit:

FrenchtownCommunityCoalition.com

Want to quit vaping? Check out the free resources below:

- <https://teen.smokefree.gov>
- <https://mylifemyquit.com>
- <https://montana.quitlogix.org/en-US>



If you have questions or would like to join the Frenchtown Community Coalition Please contact FTCC@ftsd.org or call 626-2772

