

Vaping and COVID-19

If I vape, am I at a higher risk of developing complications from COVID-19?

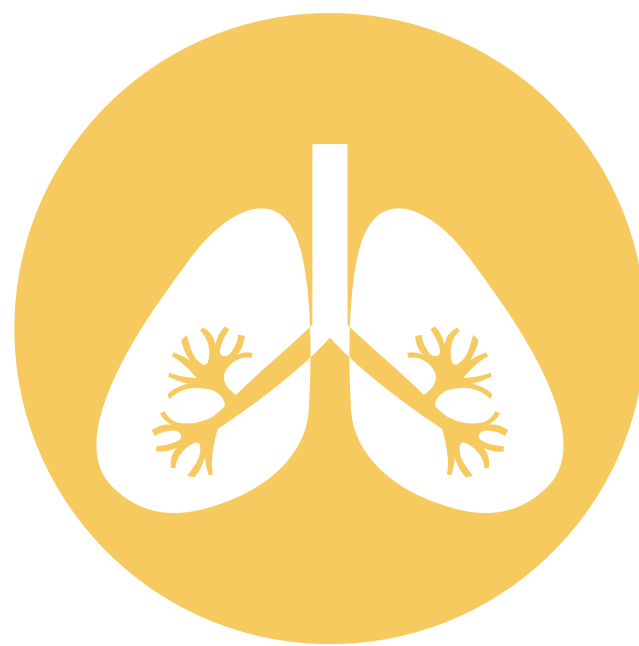
As the outbreak is new, not enough evidence has been gathered to conclusively link the two. The National Institute on Drug Abuse reports that there is **reason to believe that vaping may put an individual at higher risk of developing a more serious illness from COVID-19.** (1)

What are the potential risks?

COVID-19 specifically attacks the lungs and can result in **respiratory complications** for those affected. While information about this disease is still emerging, it is believed that those with **underlying health conditions** including lung disease and COPD are at higher risk of developing more serious illness than others. (1,4)

Vaping has been linked to diminished lung health and lung-related underlying health conditions.

The chemicals in THC and nicotine vapes have been linked to **shortness of breath, acute lung injury, lung disease,** and **COPD.** (1,2,3)



Newer research suggests that vaping **harms and inflames lung tissue,** making it **more difficult for the body to respond to infection.** (1)

Get information.

- The **National Institute on Drug Abuse** has ongoing information on the impact of substance use and COVID-19 developments.
www.drugabuse.gov/
- The **World Health Organization** and the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** are providing updates on emergent outbreak information.
www.who.int & www.cdc.gov

Get support.

- **OPEN** offers free and confidential check-ins for students looking to discuss their use. *Email open@northeastern.edu or visit northeastern.edu/open to learn more.*
- **UHCS** offers the Ready to Quit Program where students can receive individualized smoking cessation support. *Visit northeastern.edu/uhcs to learn more.*