

Smart Vapes: What Every Teen Should Know

What are smart vapes?

- Bluetooth-enabled e-cigarettes that connect to smartphone apps.
- These apps track usage, send reminders to vape and use game-like features like streaks and goals - just like Snapchat or fitness apps.
- Designed to hook young users quickly and are often marketed like trendy gadgets, not harmful devices.

Why are they dangerous?

- High nicotine content: Increases addiction, especially for developing brains (brain development ends around age 25).
- Increased risk of mental health issues like anxiety and depression.
- ► Harmful chemicals: Synthetic nicotine and other unregulated substances.

What teens often don't realize.

- Many users don't notice their addiction until they feel withdrawal symptoms.
- Long-term effects are still unknown.
- Iowa schools are struggling to keep up with fast-changing vape technology.

What you can do.

- Talk to friends: Start open, non-judgmental conversations.
- Speak up at school: Encourage your school to update policies to include smart vapes.
- Share resources: Let friends know about free help.

Need help quitting? Text or chat My Life, My Quit

- 100% free, confidential and made for teens.
- Text "Start My Quit" to 36072.
- Visit: mylifemyquit.com

You have the power to protect your health and help your friends.

For more information, visit: hhs.iowa.gov/istep