



Vaping & Public Health

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Outline



Health concerns of vaping



Vaping as a gateway to smoking



Vaping use in youth



Vape flavors and youth



Policy efforts in other states



Health concerns of vaping

Nicotine Addiction



Highly **addictive** nature



2/3 of JUUL users aged
15-24 **unaware of
nicotine content**¹



Single JUUL pod
contains as much
nicotine as **20
cigarettes**²



Health concerns of vaping

Chemicals in Flavorings

Associated with **COPD, asthma, other serious lung diseases**³

Damage human blood vessel endothelium & increases risk of cardiovascular disease (especially cinnamon & menthol)³

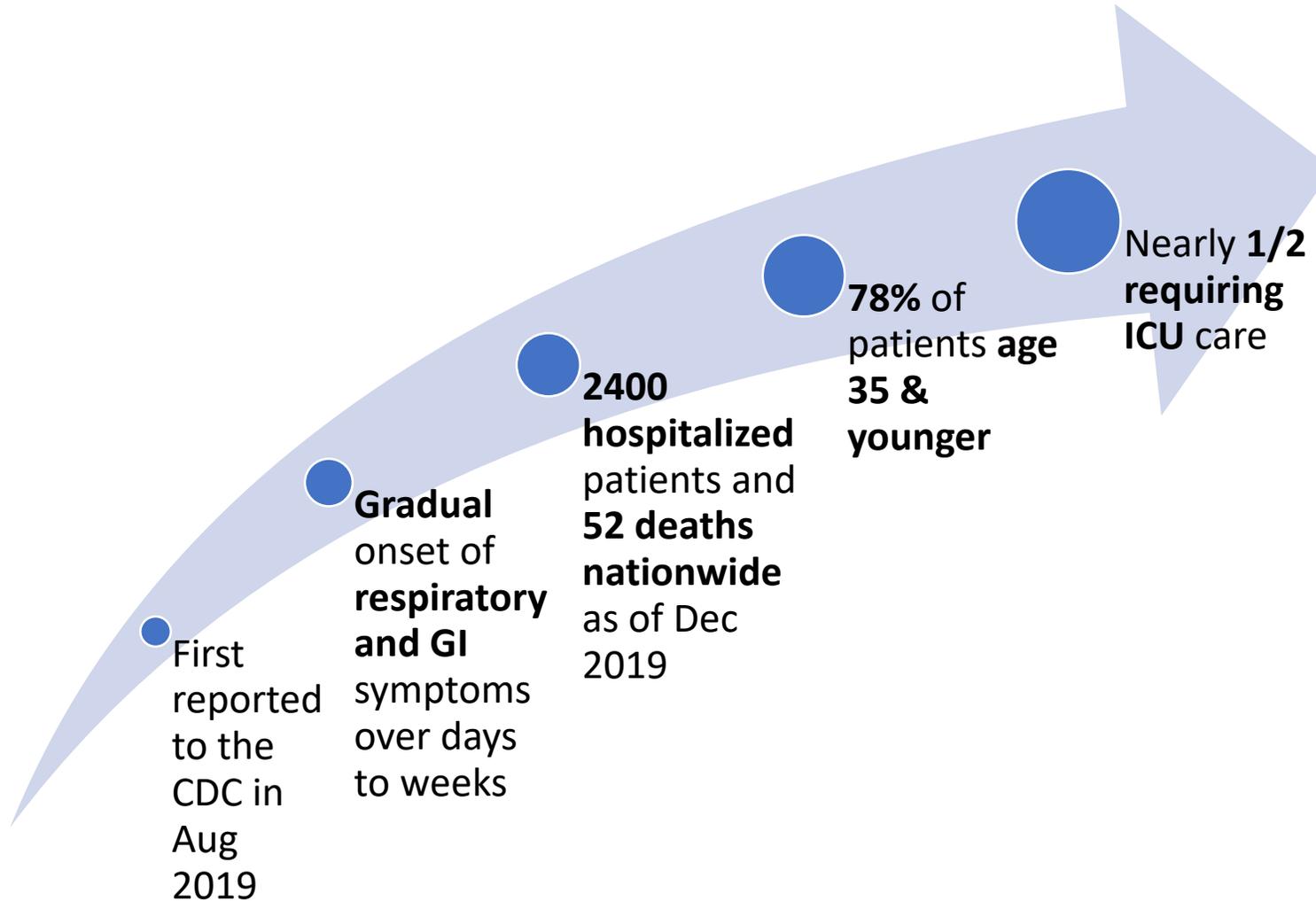
Contain **heavy metals & carcinogens** (especially mint & menthol)^{3,4}



Health concerns of vaping

EVALI

(E-cigarette & vaping-associated lung injury)



Associated with Vitamin E acetate, a thickening agent often added to illicit THC oils⁵



Vaping as a gateway to smoking

Associated with **higher incidence of cigarette smoking later**⁶

Non-smoking teens **3-4x more likely to start smoking** in the future⁷

More research needed to see if it is a confounding or causal relationship⁸



Vaping use in youth

13.3%

- Maryland **high school students** using* e-cigarettes⁹

vs.

2.2%

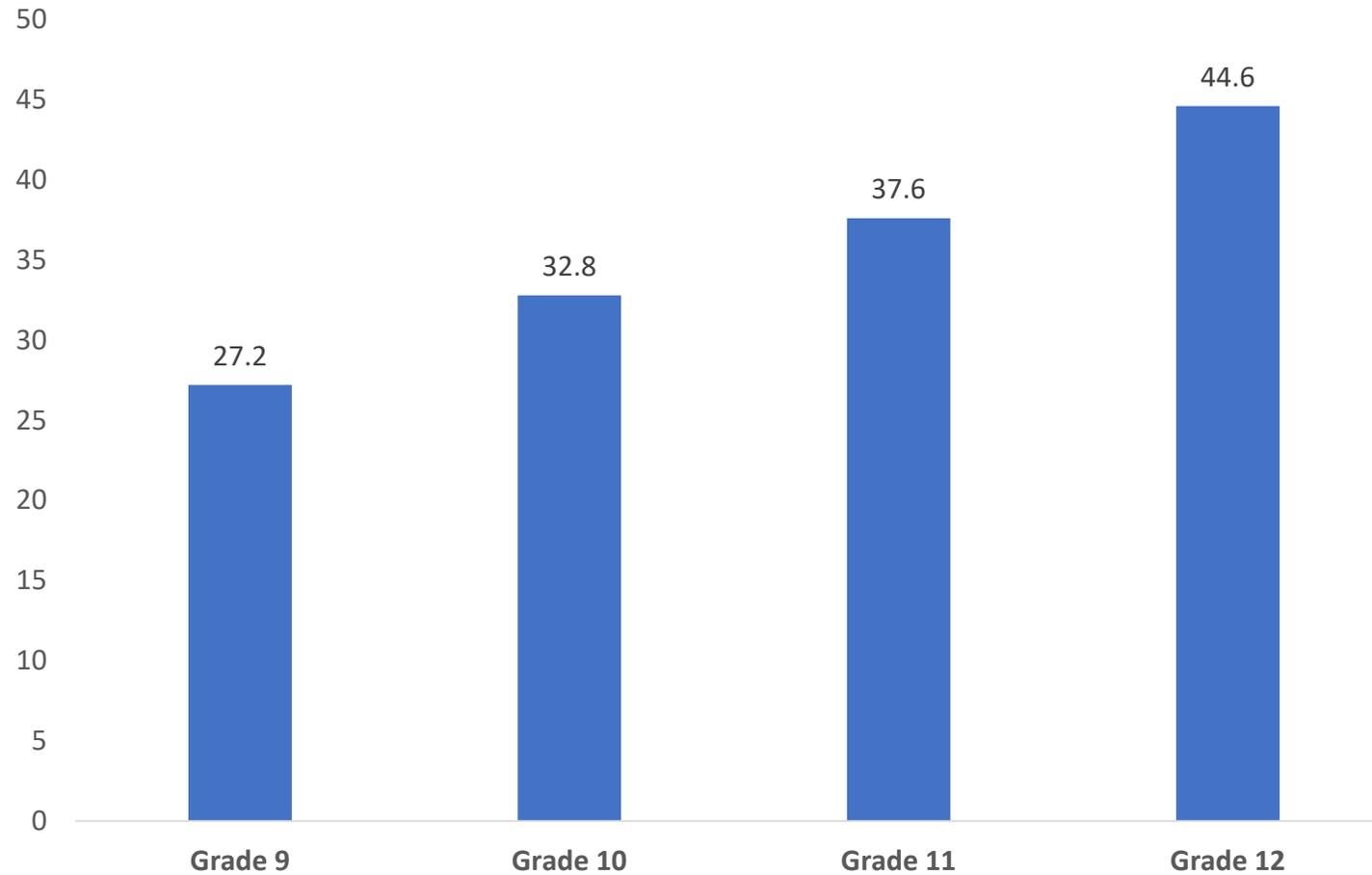
- Maryland **adults** using* e-cigarettes⁹

*On at least one day in the last 30 days



Vaping use in youth

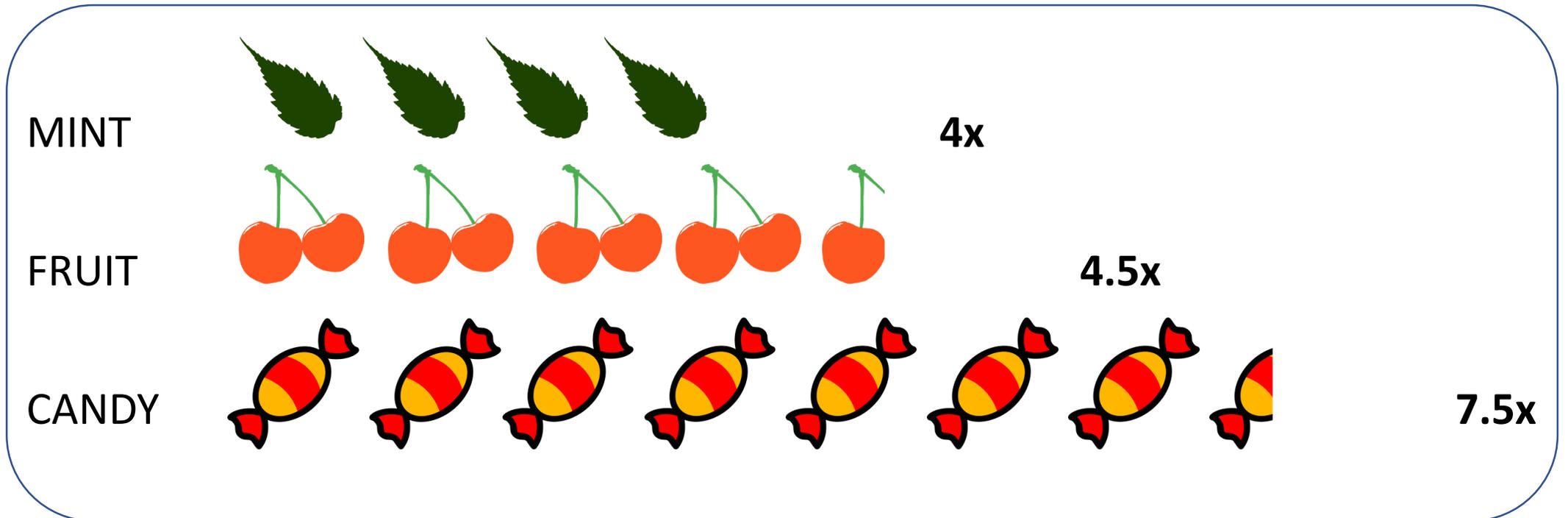
% Maryland high schoolers ever-trying e-cigarettes¹⁰





Vape flavors and youth

- **2/3 of adolescents** think e-cigarettes **only contain flavor**¹¹
- Youth are **more likely to try flavored** e-cigarettes vs. non-flavored¹²





Policy efforts in other states

New York		Washington	
E-cigarette or e-liquid tax	N.Y. Tax § 1181 (2019) (effective December 1, 2019) E-cigarette tax of 20% of the retail price is imposed on all vapor products.	E-cigarette or e-liquid tax	Wash Rev. Code Ann. § 82.102(1)(a)(i) (2019) (effective October 1, 2019) Vapor products taxed at rate of \$0.27 per milliliter of solution.
Restrictions for Youth Access	N.Y. Pub. Health Law §§ 1399-cc(2); 1399-bb(4); 1399-bb(5) (2019) Sale/distribution of e-cigarettes or liquid nicotine to persons under age 21 prohibited.	Restrictions for Youth Access	Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 26.28.080(1) (2019) Sale/distribution of vapor products to persons under age 21 prohibited. Wash. Rev. Code Ann. § 70.345.140(1) (2019) Purchase/possession of vapor products by persons under age 18 prohibited.
Flavor ban	N.Y. Comp. Codes R.& Regs. tit. 10, § 9-3.2 (effective September 17, 2019) Possession, manufacture, distribution and sale of flavored (except menthol) electronic cigarettes and nicotine e-liquids prohibited.	Flavor ban	Temporary 120-day emergency rule banning the sale of flavored vaping products (as of October 9, 2019).



SB 54. Electronic Smoking Devices - Added Flavoring

- The bill will **prohibit the shipping, importing, or selling of flavored tobacco products** in the state.
- The bill would apply to **vaping and tobacco** products
- Has an **exemption for “tobacco” flavor** but does ban menthol
- **Exempts FDA approved** products
- Advertising a product as flavored creates a presumption that it is flavored for the purposes of the law
- Will be a general prohibition in the Health General Article at MD Code, Health - General, § 24-301



Future direction: vape product tax

Goal: Tax vape products as similar to cigarettes as possible

1) How to tax?

- By **volume** or by **nicotine content**

2) How much to tax?

- Where to set the level
- Different levels for different systems (e.g., **open vs. closed**, **resuable vs. disposable**, etc.)

3) Other considerations

- **Avoid** incentivizing high nicotine content
- Possibly **cap total nicotine** content?
- Feasibility of **field nicotine content testing** for enforcement?

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