



Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit

Second-hand Smoke and E-cigarettes Environmental Exposure



Did you know?

cecondhand smoke is when you breathe in someone else's smoke. Thirdhand smoke refers to residues left on clothes and surfaces. Both cigarette and e-cigarette use results in second-hand and third-hand exposure to many harmful chemicals. In babies, smoke exposure increases the chance of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). Almost 40% of children ages 3-11 are exposed to second-hand smoke (SHS), and this exposure increases the chance of having tooth cavities, asthma, and ear infections.

- ✓ Make sure your home is smoke free:
 - ✓ Go to the quit line: (1-800-QUIT-NOW);
 - ✓ For more resources: aap.org/richmondcenter.

✓ While working on quitting:

- ✓ Only use products outside and away from buildings.
- ✓ Wash clothes and hands after smoking/vaping.
- Open windows to air out rooms.
- ✓ Talk to older children about smoking or vaping.
 - ✓ If they already smoke/vape, provide help to quit.
 - Consider focusing on short-term health effects (bad breath, smelly clothes, decreased physical performance) and cost to help kids quit.

✓ For additional resources:

- CDC handouts specific to Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and Native American populations.
- American Academy of Pediatrics Handouts.

- Don't allow smoking or e-cigarette use inside buildings or cars.
- X Don't allow smoking near you, your children or pets to avoid third hand smoke.
- X Don't make the mistake of thinking that e-cigarettes are safer than typical cigarettes!

