



SHAREABLE PDF

# ERS and tobacco harm reduction

Charlotta Pisinger<sup>1</sup>, Elif Dagli<sup>2</sup>, Filippos T. Filippidis <sup>3</sup>, Linnea Hedman<sup>4</sup>,  
Christer Janson <sup>5</sup>, Stelios Loukides<sup>6</sup>, Sofia Ravara<sup>7</sup>, Isabel Saraiva<sup>8</sup> and  
Jørgen Vestbo<sup>9</sup>, the ERS Tobacco Control Committee, on behalf of the ERS

**Affiliations:** <sup>1</sup>University of Copenhagen and Bispebjerg-Frederiksberg Hospitals, Copenhagen, Denmark. <sup>2</sup>Marmara University, Istanbul, Turkey. <sup>3</sup>Dept of Primary Care and Public Health, Imperial College, London, UK. <sup>4</sup>Dept of Sustainable Health, The OLIN Unit, Umeå University, Umeå, Sweden. <sup>5</sup>Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. <sup>6</sup>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece. <sup>7</sup>CICS-UBI - Health Sciences Research Centre, University of Beira Interior, Covilhã, Portugal and NOVA National School of Public Health, Public Health Research Centre, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal. <sup>8</sup>European Lung Foundation, Sheffield, UK. <sup>9</sup>University of Manchester and the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust, Manchester, UK.

**Correspondence:** Jørgen Vestbo, 2nd Floor, ERC Building, Wythenshawe Hospital, Southmoor Road, Manchester, M23 9LT, UK. E-mail: jorgen.vestbo@manchester.ac.uk



@ERSpublications

**ERS supports the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, which also provides regulation to novel products, and cannot recommend tobacco harm reduction as a population-based strategy** <http://bit.ly/2rxTZ5b>

**Cite this article as:** Pisinger C, Dagli E, Filippidis FT, *et al.* ERS and tobacco harm reduction. *Eur Respir J* 2019; 54: 1902009 [<https://doi.org/10.1183/13993003.02009-2019>].

This single-page version can be shared freely online.

Medical experts and federal health officials in USA have recently warned the public from using e-cigarettes, as the number of people with a severe lung illness rose to over 1600 cases, 34 of these fatal. An illustrative case is reported in the *European Respiratory Journal* [1]. Health officials state that “vaping is a probable potential cause” but no firm conclusions can yet be drawn. In this light it is interesting to discuss the concept of tobacco harm reduction. The European Respiratory Society (ERS) Advocacy Council's Tobacco Control Committee has recently launched an ERS position paper on this topic [2]. From this paper we would like to draw attention to some of the major issues of harm reduction.