October 14, 2019

Dear Health Care Provider,

The Oregon Health Authority has issued a public health warning for all individuals to stop using vaping products immediately until federal and state officials have determined the cause of serious lung injuries and deaths linked to the use of both cannabis and nicotine vaping products. The sale of all flavored vaping products is banned in Oregon effective October 15, 2019 for a six-month period.

Effective October 9, 2019, a temporary emergency disease reporting rule was put in place for 180 days. Clinicians must report within one working day any patient who has been hospitalized or who died from radiographically or histologically demonstrated lung injury following a history of e-cigarette use or vaping in the preceding 90 days.

CDC guidance for clinicians regarding assessment, clinical care, and additional prevention measures for patients suspected to have vaping-associated lung illness may be found at https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/68/wr/mm6841e3.htm.

As a health care provider you are likely to see more patients who need help quitting vaping products. To help both youth and adults with quitting vaping, more help helps. Please advise them on their options for quitting, including counseling, FDA-approved Nicotine Replacement Therapy and other FDA-approved medications. A combination of counseling and medication can increase the chances of successfully quitting.

The Oregon Health Authority has resources for you and your clinic to help patients quit vaping.

Attached to this letter is a flyer that provides information on how to help your patient quit vaping. For providers that work directly with youth, we have included a second flyer with resources for this population. For more information, including how to bill for cessation support, please visit healthoregon.org/vaping and click on “For Providers”. Additional resources will be added as they are available.