

**Mayo Clinic Minute: Is vaping a gateway to smoking?**

VIDEO	AUDIO
	The use of e-cigarettes, or vaping, by teens is rapidly on the rise — nearly a 50 percent increase in just four years. And health officials believe it's creating more tobacco smokers.
<b>J. Taylor Hays, M.D. Director Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Center</b>	“I think the data is pretty clear so far, in the limited studies we have, that it looks like it is a gateway for youth smoking.”
	Dr. Taylor Hays is the director of the Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Center. He says teens that have never smoked a cigarette are three to four times more likely to start smoking in the future if they use e-cigarettes.
<b>Dr. Hays</b>	“We know that kids who start vaping using e-cigarettes are more likely to use combustible tobacco cigarettes later.”
	Dr. Hays says he's concerned that vaping appears to be reversing a long-term trend of declining teen tobacco use.
	He says 6 to 7 million people from around the world die every year from smoking.
<b>Dr. Hays</b>	“If the current trends of smoking prevalence continue across the world, we'll reach 1 billion smoking-related deaths in this century.”
	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I'm Jason Howland.