

Changes in Perspectives of Electronic Cigarette use and Vaping Among Illinois Family Physicians and others 2017-2019



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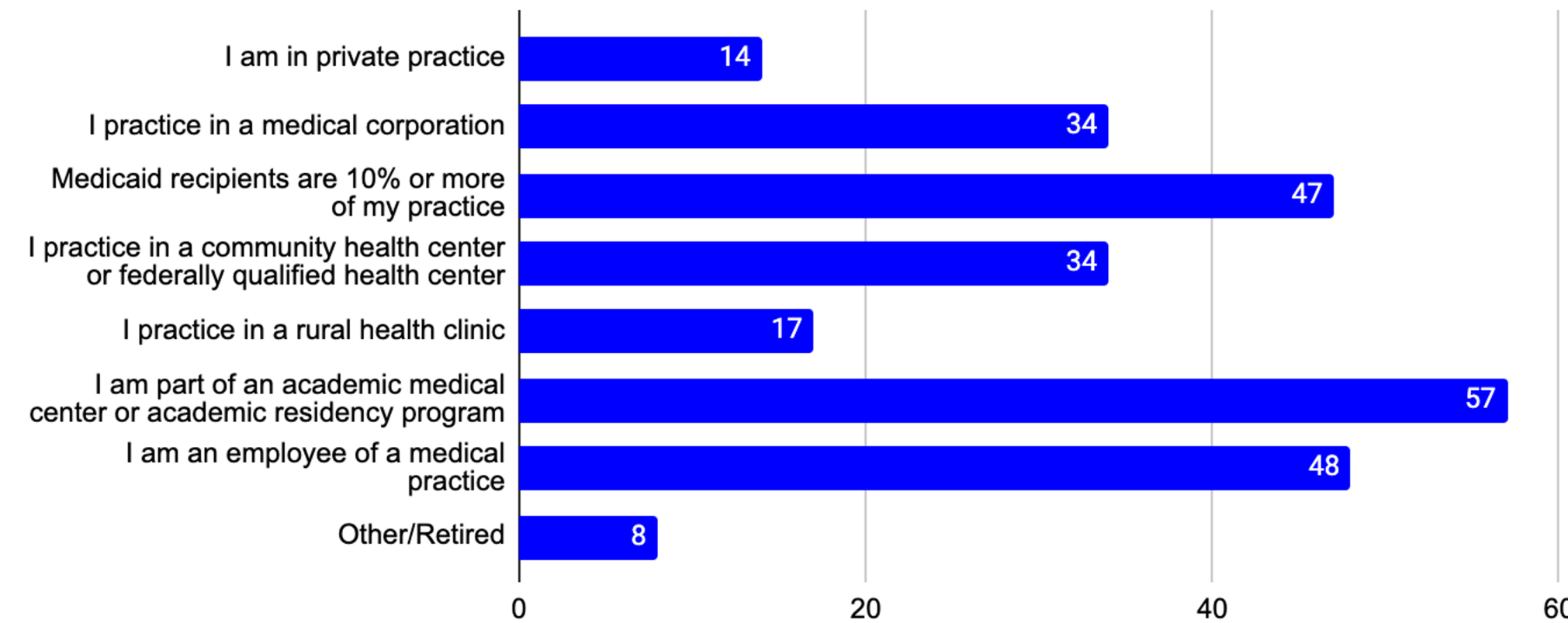
IAFP Public Health Committee Externs

Background

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease in the United States. Although cigarette use has been on the decline, there continues to be a dramatic rise in the use of e-cigarettes and vaping among U.S. adolescents. In 2019, more than a quarter of high school students are current (past 30 day) e-cigarette users. Additionally, 1.6 million youth used e-cigarettes “frequently,” which is defined as on 20 or more days per month.

2019 Survey Respondents

2019 Practice Type of Survey Respondents (multiple responses allowed)



Methods

The data collected for this research was done so by two electronic questionnaires, one in 2017 and a second in 2019. The electronic questionnaires were sent to all members of the Illinois Academy of Family Physicians email listserv.

The 2017 questionnaire had 207 responses and had 22 items, which included multiple choice, select-all-that-apply, and free-text items.

The 2019 questionnaire had 149 responses and had 27 items, which included multiple choice, select-all-that-apply, and free-text items.

The information collected by these questionnaires were automatically inputted into the online program, Survey Monkey. Charts and data tables were automatically generated by Survey Monkey and independently created using Google Sheets.

Results

Concerns surrounding the harm of vaping have increased dramatically. From 39% in 2017 to 55% in 2019, family physicians and others reported they do not believe that e-cigarettes are safer than conventional tobacco cigarettes.

Disapproval of e-cigarette use as a smoking cessation treatment jumped from 51% in 2017 to 62% in 2019.

The number of family physicians and others reporting “always” or “often” initiating the conversation and screening for vaping and e-cigarette usage has increased from 32% in 2017 to 57% in 2019.

In 2017, 36% of family physicians and others described the importance of discussing e-cigarette usage and vaping with patients as “very important.” In 2019, this number grew to 74%.

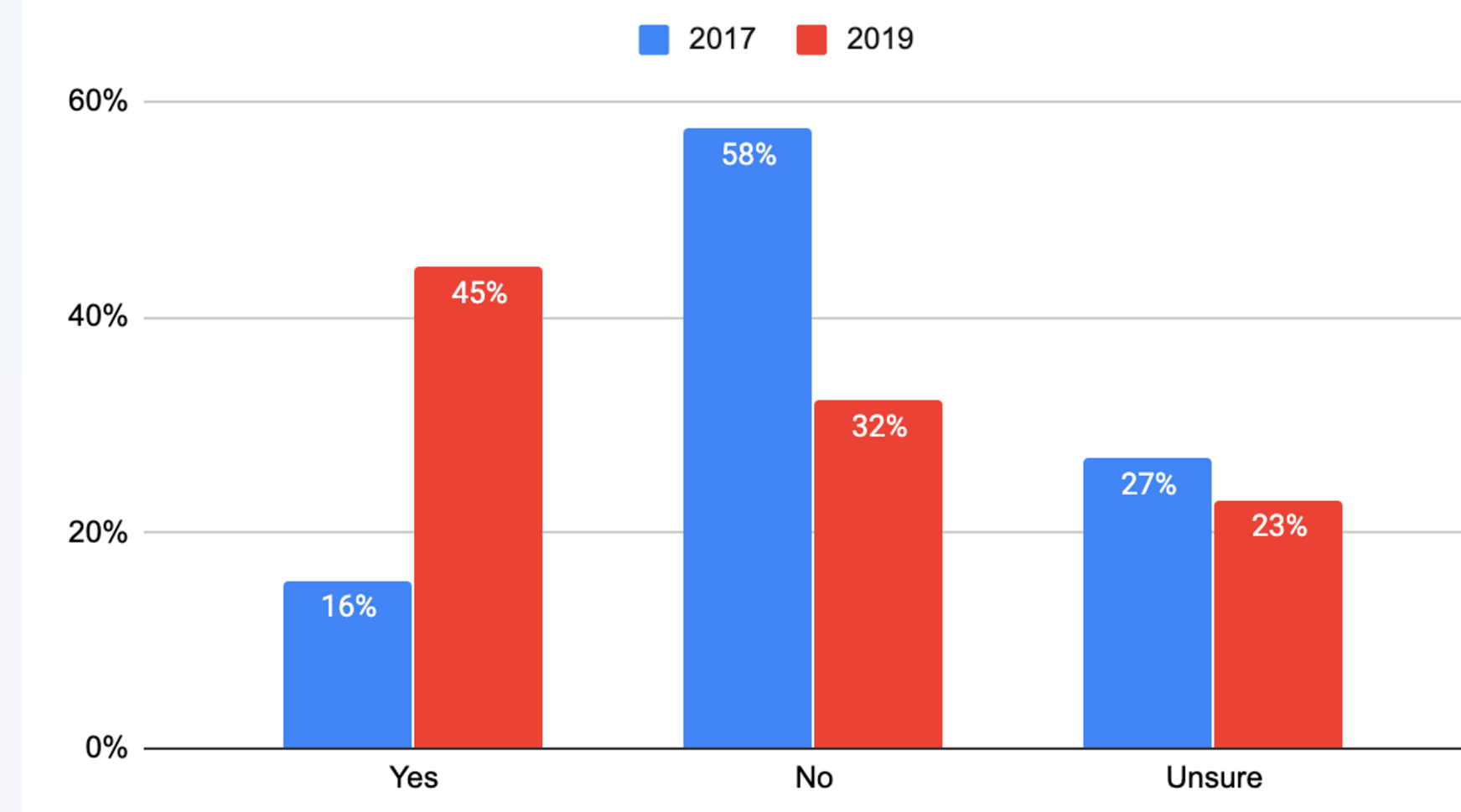
From 64% in 2017 to 75% in 2019, most family physicians and others believe that e-cigarette use and vaping are a gateway to additional tobacco use. Additionally, the belief that e-cigarette use and vaping are a gateway to other illicit drugs, such as marijuana, use increased from 38% in 2017 to 58% in 2019.

The self-reported “average” knowledge of e-cigarettes and vaping among family physicians and others increased from 52% to 69%, in 2017 and 2019 respectively.

Recent Changes in Laws

- Since July 1, 2019, Illinois law prohibits the use of all e-cigarette, vaping, and conventional tobacco products to people younger than the age 21.
- On December 20, 2019, the minimum sales age of tobacco products was raised from 18 to 21 nationwide.

Does your EMR have a specific space to document e-cigarette use or vaping?

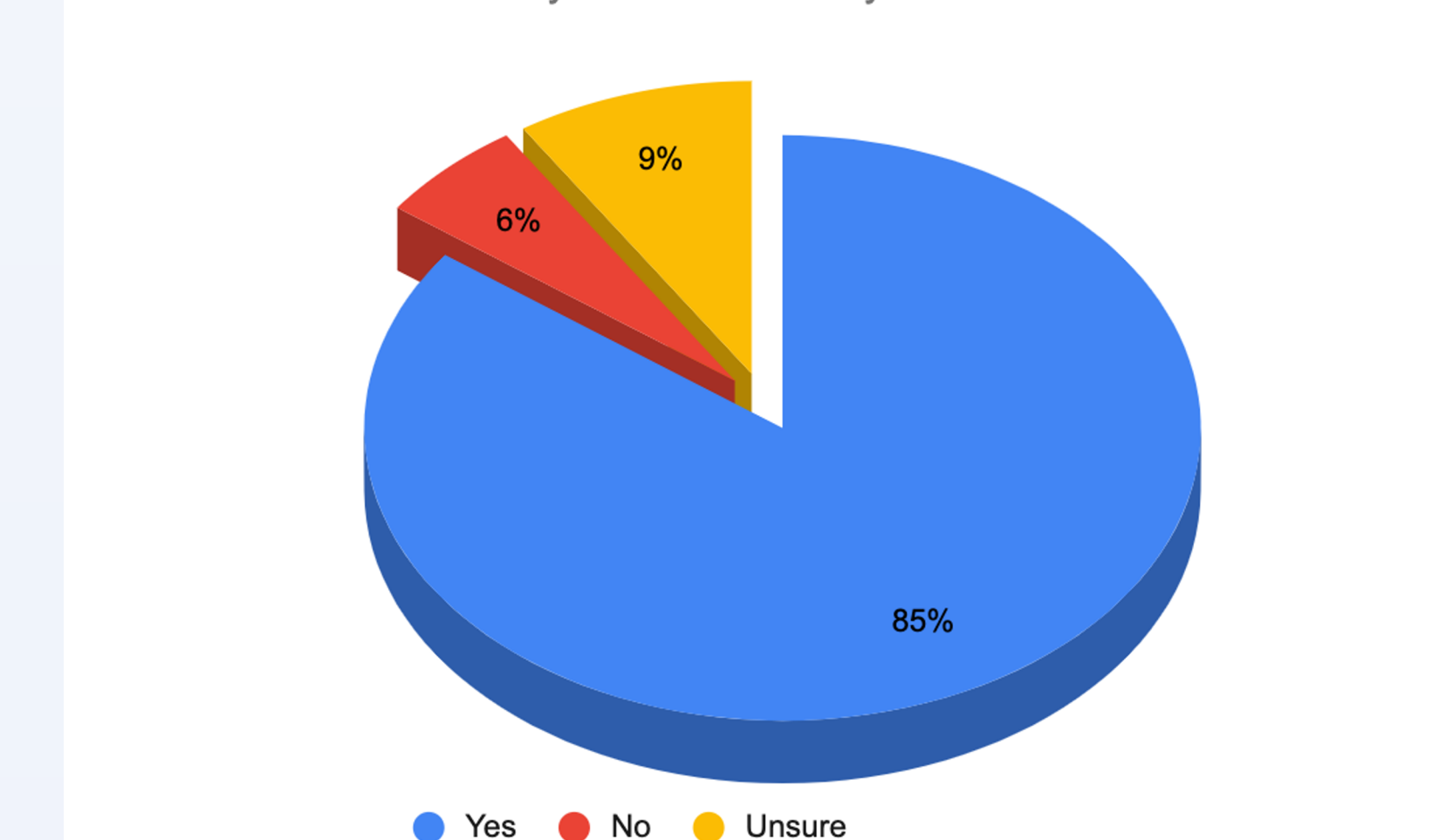


In 2017, 16% of family physicians and others reported their EHR has a specific area to document e-cigarette use or vaping.

In 2019, 45% of family physicians and others reported their EHR included a specific area for documentation.

In 2019, of those with an applicable situation, 85% reported that having a designed area within the EHR for e-cigarette use and vaping would increase their likelihood of screening for it.

If your EMR had a designated area to ask about E-Cigarette and vaping use would you be more likely to ask about it?



Screening

Topic	Description	Grade	Date of Recommendation
Tobacco Smoking Cessation in Adults, Including Pregnant Women: Behavioral and Pharmacotherapy Interventions: adults who are not pregnant	The USPSTF recommends that clinicians ask all adults about tobacco use, advise them to stop using tobacco, and provide behavioral interventions and U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved pharmacotherapy for cessation to adults who use tobacco.	A	September 2015
Tobacco Smoking Cessation in Adults, Including Pregnant Women: Behavioral and Pharmacotherapy Interventions: pregnant women	The USPSTF recommends that clinicians ask all pregnant women about tobacco use, advise them to stop using tobacco, and provide behavioral interventions for cessation to pregnant women who use tobacco.	A	September 2015
Tobacco Use in Children and Adolescents: Primary Care Interventions: school-aged children and adolescents	The USPSTF recommends that primary care clinicians provide interventions, including education or brief counseling, to prevent initiation of tobacco use among school-aged children and adolescents. See the Clinical Considerations for more information on effective interventions.	B	August 2013

Table 1

Recommendations

- Family physicians must continue to utilize evidence-based recommendations to guide screening, counseling, and management of tobacco cessation for their patients.
- Family physicians should continue to engage in conversations about the health risks of e-cigarettes use and vaping with their patients.
- Family physicians should modify or encourage the modification of their EHR systems in order to ensure consistent screening among appropriate patients.

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References

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3. Trump Administration Combating Epidemic of Youth E-Cigarette Use with Plan to Clear Market of Unauthorized, Non-Tobacco-Flavored E-Cigarette Products. (2019, September 11). Retrieved April 8, 2020, from <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/trump-administration-combating-epidemic-youth-e-cigarette-use-plan-clear-market-unauthorized-non>
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