

This Week in CTP - Updates from the Center for Tobacco Products

In a historic moment for the nation's public health, <u>today FDA proposed a rule</u> that would extend its authority to regulate additional products meeting the statutory definition of a tobacco product. Products meeting this definition, or "deemed," would include electronic cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, certain dissolvables that are not "smokeless tobacco," nicotine gels, and waterpipe (hookah) tobacco.

"This is an important moment for consumer protection – when the proposed regulation is finalized, FDA will be able to apply powerful regulatory tools, such as age restrictions and rigorous scientific review of new tobacco products and claims, to help reduce tobacco-related disease and death," said Mitch Zeller, J.D., director of the FDA's Center for Tobacco Products. "Ultimately, FDA will play a vital gatekeeping role in protecting the public by reviewing all new products and health-related claims for tobacco products in today's rapidly evolving marketplace."

The proposed rule will be available for public comment for 75 days starting tomorrow. FDA welcomes comments and will consider all that are submitted, as well as any data, research, and other information submitted to the docket.

Visit our new webpage, <u>Extending Authorities to All Tobacco Products</u>, to find out more information about today's announcement, read the proposed rule, download resources, or submit comments.