# SUPPORT FOR ENDS REGULATION AMONG SMOKING & VAPING GROUPS

Philip Gendall PhD<sup>1</sup>, Janet Hoek<sup>1</sup>

Department of Public Health, University of Otago, Wellington, New Zealand



## INTRODUCTION

- Smokers can benefit from switching to vaping, but nonsmokers who take up vaping, particularly young people, face risks.
- Policy measures could play a role in ensuring that marketing of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) targets smokers while minimising non-smokers' exposure.

## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- What support exists for policy measures regulating ENDS marketing?
- How does that support vary across different smoking and vaping groups?

## METHODS

- Using an online survey of 519 New Zealand smokers (n=270 ENDS users) and 486 non-smokers (n= 54 ENDS users), we examined:
  - Perceptions of ENDS regulation, including ENDS marketing and sales, and spaces where ENDS use is permitted.

#### Measures

• Five-point oppose-support scales and forced-choice questions.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

This project was funded by the Health Research Council of New Zealand

(grant 16/149).

Luke Pilkinton-Ching for this poster design.

#### CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

There are no conflicts of interest to report.





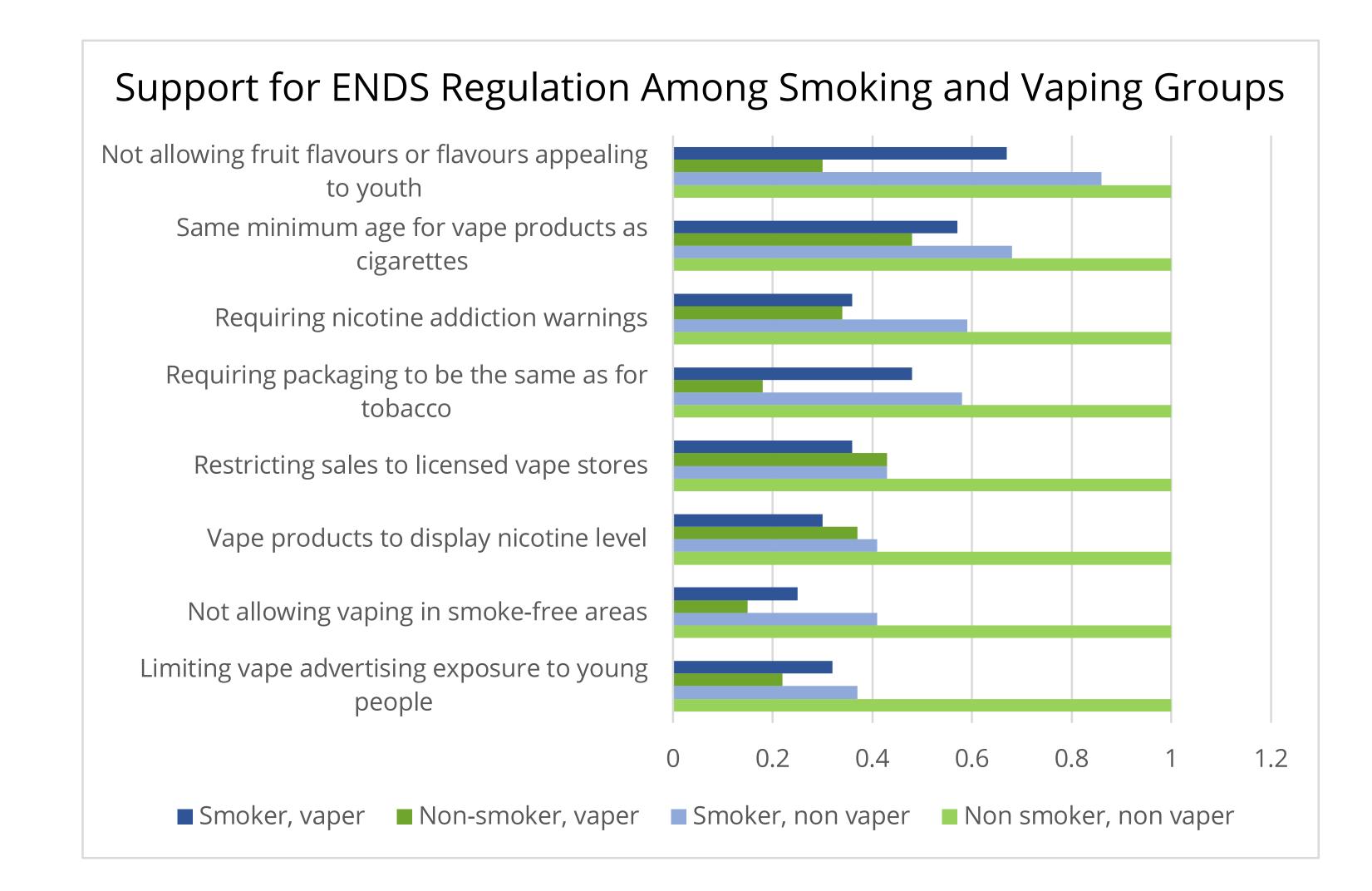
CONTACTS

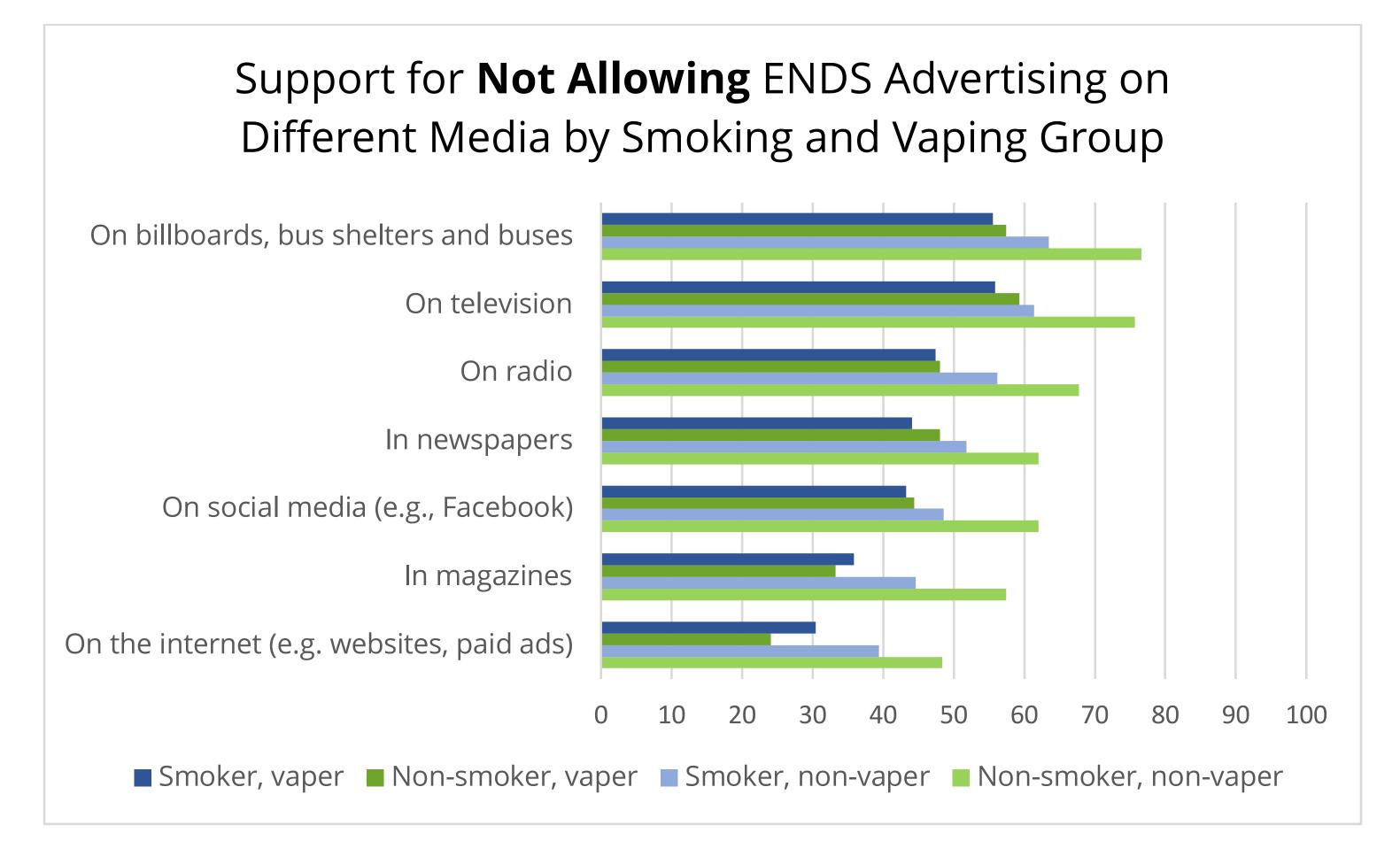
Janet Hoek, University of Otago, janet.hoek@otago.ac.nz



# RESULTS

- Vapers gave less support than non-vapers to proposals that would limit e-cigarette marketing or restrict where vaping might occur.
- Non-smoking non-vapers (reference group)
  were more likely than all other groups to
  support the proposed measures.
  - These differences were significant for:
    - Not allowing vaping in smoke-free spaces;
    - Requiring plain packaging for vape products;
    - Restricting sales of e-cigarettes and e-liquids to licensed 'vape stores'.
- Irrespective of ENDS use or smoked tobacco use, most respondents supported **not allowing** ENDS advertising on media with high exposure to young people, including billboards, bus shelters and buses, or television.
- A large majority of all groups believed that:
  - ENDS advertising should have restricted broadcast times (72% to 84%);
  - Should not be allowed near where young people gather (60% to 82%).





# CONCLUSIONS

- Irrespective of smoking or vaping behaviour, respondents supported policies that could prevent ENDS uptake among young people.
- Policy makers could regulate ENDS purchase age, nicotine labels, and addiction warnings, and restrict marketing and advertising to limit youth exposure to ENDS promotions.