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Institute for Global Tobacco Control Prevalence of Policies Requiring Health Warning Labels on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Heated Tobacco Products Around the Globe

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Objective

Conduct a global assessment of countries that require Health Warning Labels for Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) and Heated Tobacco Products (HTPs)



Health warning labels (HWLs) are a policy priority for tobacco control.

While we know which countries require HWLs for cigarettes, there is **no current global assessment** of the countries that require HWLs for ENDS and HTPs.





Institute for Global Tobacco Control (IGTC) Policy Scan

- Tracks national ENDS and HTP policies
- Provides breakdowns of regulations by country, policy domain, product classification, and regulatory mechanism
- Displays information in an online searchable platform

globaltobaccocontrol.org/policyscan





In-country Contacts and Protocol

To collect information, we rely on in-country contacts

- Country bureaucrats or other policy experts, such as those working in a non-governmental advocacy organization
- We email requests semi-annually to clarify interpretations of regulations and to request information
- We work with legal scholars to review and classify regulations and related information received



Examples of Health Warning Labeling for ENDS

- Text, typically covering 30% of package
- Warnings state that the product contains nicotine, and nicotine is highly addictive
 - Some countries include nicotine strength/concentration on the label







Canada







Example of Israel's Plain Packaging for ENDS



Israel



Examples of Health Warning Labeling for HTPs

- About 1/3 of countries in sample regulate HTPs as a tobacco product
- Warnings about adverse health effects and addiction are common on HTPs





Example of Israel's Plain Packaging for HTPs



Israel



Example of Korea's Graphic HWL for HTPs



Republic of Korea



ENDS Labels' Characteristics

- Most countries have text only HWL for ENDS that mention the product contains nicotine and nicotine is addictive.
- Roughly 10% also include that the product is not intended for people who don't smoke.
- Roughly 2% percent include a list of harmful substances, e.g. nitrosamines and formaldehyde.
- We found no countries with graphic warnings on ENDS in our sample.



HTP Labels' Characteristics

- Most countries have text only HWL for HTPs.
- Most countries require these labels state the associated adverse health effects of tobacco use.
- Many countries regulate HTPs as a tobacco product, however, graphic HWLs are not required.



Of the 130 countries/jurisdictions surveyed, we identified **63 countries requiring HWLs** for ENDS, HTPs, or both.



63 Countries Require HWLs for ENDS, HTPs, or Both





Economy Classifications for Countries with HWL Policies for ENDS Only





Economy Classifications for Countries with HWL Policies for HTPs Only





Percentage of Lower-middle Income Countries with HWL Policies



Niue and Cook Islands were excluded due to their unclassified economic status with the World Bank.



Not a single LIC in our analysis **requires HWLs** on ENDS or HTPs.

Lower income countries (including lower-middle and low income) are the **least likely** to have HWL policies.



Limitations of this study

- We rely on responses from contacts, and although we have 194 member states in the scan, we have policy information on 130.
- We are merely reporting if countries have HWL policies.
- Some information is dated back 2 years, so policies may have changed.



Implications

Information from this study and the IGTC Policy Scan can help identify relevant countries for further investigation to better understand the details of specific policies and their importance for tobacco control.





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Thank you!



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