

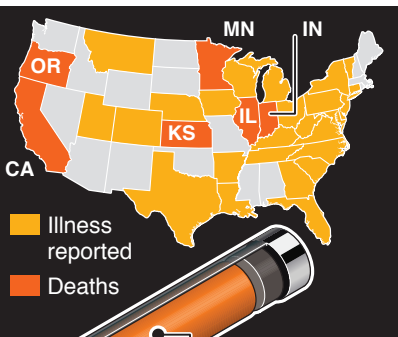
# Vaping illness outbreak in U.S.

U.S. health officials are investigating more than 450 cases of severe lung illnesses and at least six deaths linked to the use of electronic cigarettes, or vaping devices, in 36 states and the U.S. Virgin Islands

■ **Vaping:** Seen as safer alternative to smoking for those who want to quit, but risks not fully understood

■ **Symptoms:** Shortness of breath, coughing, nausea, vomiting and fever

■ **Cause:** No specific substance or vaping device linked to illness yet. But many patients used products containing **Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)** – psychoactive chemical in cannabis – and **Vitamin E acetate** – oil used to thicken vaping liquid



**Cartridge:** Contains solution – called “juice” – of dissolved nicotine and propylene glycol. Synthetic flavouring often added

**ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE**

Lithium ion rechargeable battery

Microprocessor:  
Triggers atomiser

Mouthpiece

Atomiser: Contains heating element which changes “juice” into scented vapour which users inhale

