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It’s not just “water vapor”: e-cigarette second hand smoke and third hand vapor compared to cigarette smoke

Evan Floyd is an Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma, Department of Occupational and Environmental Health. After completing his undergraduate degree in chemistry from University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB), he worked as an analytical chemist with Battelle in the Army’s chemical weapons disposal program and as an Industrial Hygienist / Environmental Chemist for an environmental lab.

After completing his PhD at UAB in Environmental Health Science, Dr. Floyd developed a novel sample analysis technique that has tremendous promise to improve worker protection through fast, low sensitivity exposure assessments. Recently he has become involved in e-Cigarette research with the Oklahoma Tobacco Research Center characterizing e-cigarette vapor and its deposition on surfaces.

Dr. Floyd finds the recent explosion of e-cigarette usage encouraging since e-cigs are estimated to be 100-1000 times less harmful to your health than tobacco cigarettes, and many people have been able to switch from smoking to e-cigarette usage. However this movement is frightening because e-cigs are not without risk as they emit carcinogens and other harmful VOCs, and there is a rising youth initiation of e-cig utilization.