

Supplemental Appendix 1: Data extraction form – assessment of web-based information on e-cigarettes

Who extract data?	Name: _____
Search engine, web site # :	<input type="checkbox"/> Google, No.: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Baidu, No: _____
Access date: Web site link:	Access date: _____ http:// _____
Who runs the Web site?	<input type="checkbox"/> Government/public/university <input type="checkbox"/> Health institution <input type="checkbox"/> E-cig industry/commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Information services company <input type="checkbox"/> Charity/not-for-profit NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear
Organization or company name:	
What types of information? (Multiple choices allowed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Health education <input type="checkbox"/> News <input type="checkbox"/> Advertisement <input type="checkbox"/> Consumer feedback <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear
Content coverage?	What are e-cigs: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No; <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear E-cigs' harms: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No; <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear E-cigs for quitting: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No; <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear E-cig regulation: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes; <input type="checkbox"/> No; <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear Other: _____
For advertisement websites: Types of e-cigarettes:	<input type="checkbox"/> Cigalike –closed system <input type="checkbox"/> eGo - open system <input type="checkbox"/> Mod –APVs <input type="checkbox"/> Heat not burn product <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear/other: _____
Main messages and claims from the website:	
Smoking cessation claims:	<input type="checkbox"/> Help quit <input type="checkbox"/> Not help quit <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear/other: _____
Health claims:	<input type="checkbox"/> Healthier than tobacco cigarettes <input type="checkbox"/> More harmful than tobacco cigarettes <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear/other: _____
Social claims: (Multiple choices allowed)	<input type="checkbox"/> Less expensive than tobacco cigarettes <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaner than tobacco cigarettes <input type="checkbox"/> More socially acceptable than tobacco cigarettes <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear/other: _____
Age claims:	<input type="checkbox"/> Not for children/young people <input type="checkbox"/> No age claims <input type="checkbox"/> Unclear/other: _____
Any other notes/commentary:	
Modified QUEST criteria/scores (range 0-28) Reference for QUEST tool: Robillard JM, Jun JH, Lai JA, Feng TL. The QUEST for quality online health information: validation of a short quantitative tool. BMC medical informatics and decision making 2018; 18(1): 87.	

Authorship: (Score x1): _____	0- No indication of authorship or username 1- All other indications of authorship 2- Author's name and qualification clearly stated
Attribution (a): (Score x3): _____	0- No sources 1- Mention of expert source, research findings (though with insufficient information to identify the specific studies), links to various sites, advocacy body, or other 2- Reference to at least one identifiable scientific study, regardless of format (e.g., information in text, reference list) 3- Reference to mainly identifiable scientific studies, regardless of format (in >50% of claims)
Attribution (b): (Score x1): _____	For all articles scoring 2 or 3 on Attribution (a): Type of study 0- Not applicable; or in vitro, animal models, editorials 1- Single journal article (year: _____) 2- Multiple journal articles (most recent year: _____) 3- Systematic reviews of research studies (year: _____)
Conflict of interest: (Score x 3): _____	0- High risk of conflict of interest 1- Unclear 2- Unbiased information
Currency: (Score x 1): _____	Web site update date (month/year): _____ 0- No date present 1- Article is dated but 1 years or older 2- Article is dated within the last 1 years
Tone (includes title): (Score x 3): _____	0- Fully supported (authors fully and unequivocally support the claims, strong vocabulary, no discussion of limitations) 1- Mainly supported (authors mainly support their claims but with more cautious vocabulary such as "can reduce your risk" or "may help prevent", no discussion of limitations) 2- Balanced/cautious support (authors' claims are balanced by caution, includes statements of limitations and/or contrasting findings)
Total score: _____	Any notes/Commentary: