Introduction
Electronic cigarettes are devices that deliver a nicotine containing vapour and have been advertised as a healthier alternative to tobacco (Grana et al 2014). This claim has been supported by Public Health England (2015). Often used as nicotine replacement therapy, e-cigarettes are utilised to help with smoking cessation (Brown et al 2014). Consequently, the use of e-cigarettes has become increasingly popular. However, little is known about the potential health implications on their use to both the user and second hand smoker (Schober et al 2014). Indeed, the health implications of e-cigarettes are not limited to the inhalation of the e-cigarette vapour. Recent media reports have highlighted the risk of burn injuries as a result of their use.

Methodology
Following the discharge of six patients who had attended our regional burn centre with e-cigarette associated burns, a short telephone interview was conducted to see how the incident which led to their burn injury has altered their attitudes and behaviours towards the use of e-cigarettes.

Results
Overall response rate was 50%. All patients who responded had 4 or more weeks off work. All respondents had either purchased their e-cigarettes from abroad or from eBay sellers and received no safety information from the seller nor was any included with the product packaging.

Although there were no reported long term disabilities or functional deficits, it was found that all patients complained of cold intolerance, pruritus of the burn and joint stiffness. All respondents continue to use e-cigarettes following their burn. However, it was noted that since the incident which led to their injury, all respondents have become more safety conscious and aware of the need to acquire their e-cigarette device from reputable companies. Following their accidents all had purchased new e-cigarette devices from high street vendors feeling that these products would have a higher safety profile. Although verbal advice on the dangers of e-cigarettes exploding if not used properly was given upon purchase, no safety information was supplied with the products.

Discussion
It is essential that safety information be included on e-cigarette packaging and a need to regulate the standard of these products through governmental legislations. It is proposed that a nationwide database is developed to collate these types of injuries, to allow the assessment of e-cigarette injuries to the UK population to be able to offer appropriate safety advice.

Conclusion
Further regulation of e-cigarette standard and awareness of its potential harm through improper usage is essential. There should be a nationwide effort in collecting e-cigarette associated burns data to improve the overall standard of care in similar injuries.

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References

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