

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF S2844

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KEY POINTS

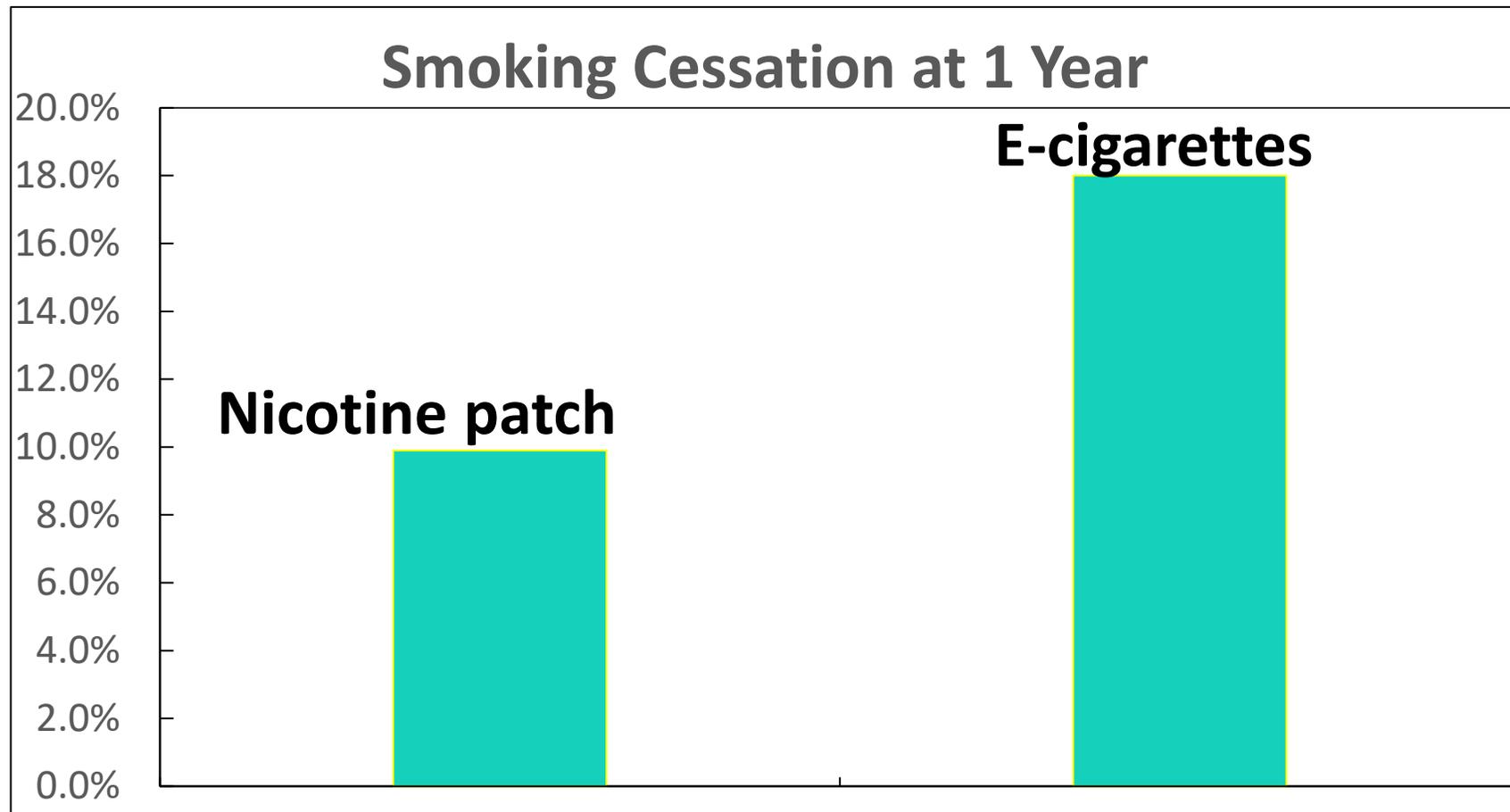
- **In 2026, switching from cigarettes to flavored e-cigarettes is the single most effective method for assisted smoking cessation.**
- **Rhode Island's current complete ban on flavored e-cigarettes has caused many ex-smokers to return to smoking and the rest to turn to the black market.**
- **It is hypocritical for Rhode Island to ban the sale of virtually all e-cigarettes while allowing real cigarettes to be sold at every corner store.**
- **The Rhode Island legislature has done a huge favor for Big Tobacco by putting a huge barrier in front of Rhode Island smokers who want to quit to save their lives.**
 - **The legislature did this by banning the single most effective strategy to quit smoking: flavored vapes.**
 - **What a favor to Big Tobacco! Allow all of their products to remain on the shelves in every gas station and convenience store while putting flavored e-cigarettes on the black market, only available to those who are willing to conspire to break state law.**

ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES ARE
THE #1 METHOD OF ASSISTED
SMOKING CESSATION AMONG
YOUNG ADULTS IN THE U.S.

WHAT IS THE ACTUAL
SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE ON
THE EFFECTIVENESS OF E-
CIGARETTES COMPARED TO
OTHER “FDA-APPROVED”
METHODS?

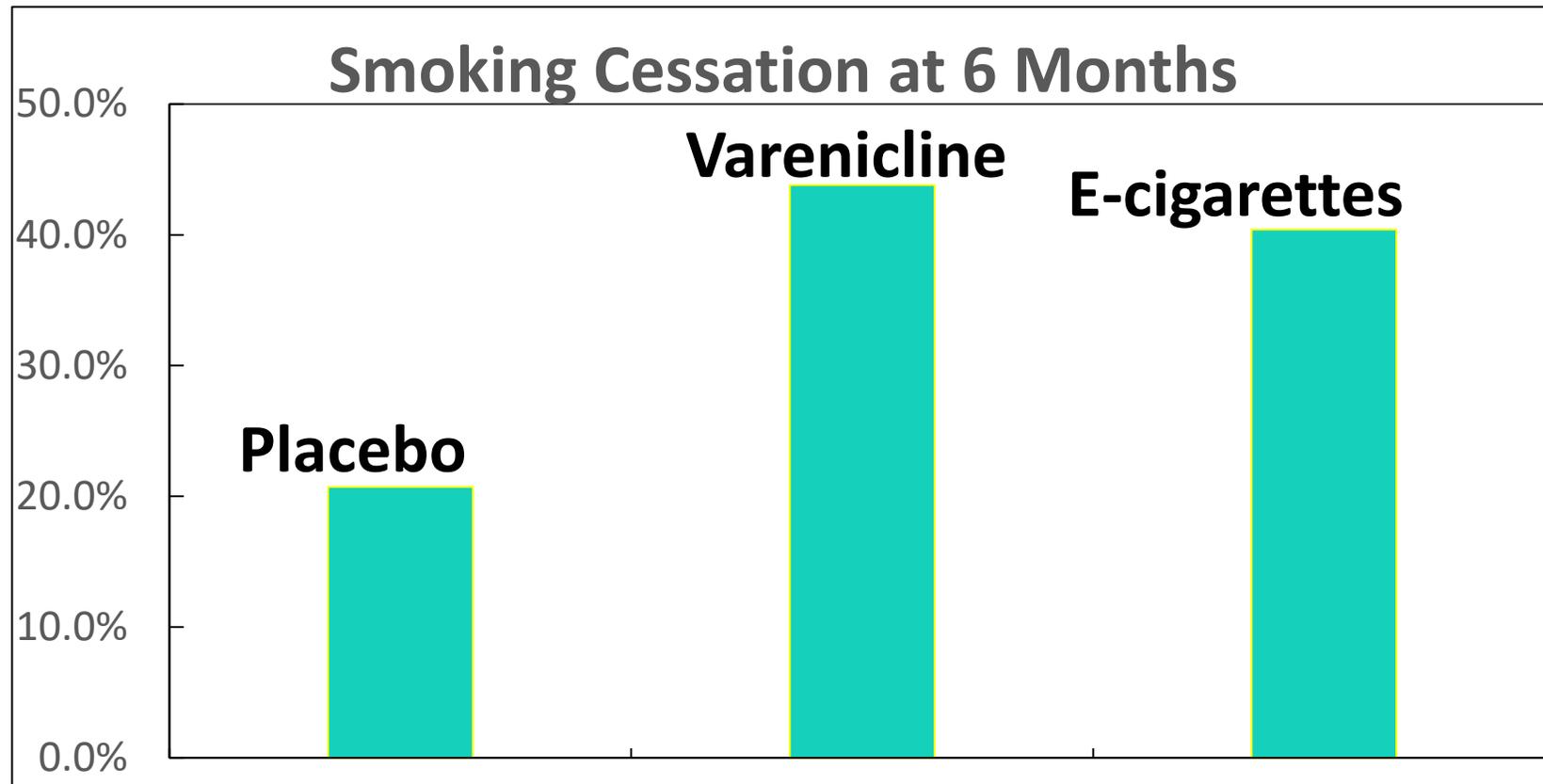
HAJEK ET AL. CLINICAL TRIAL, 2019

“The 1-year abstinence rate was 18.0% in the e-cigarette group, as compared with 9.9% in the nicotine-replacement group (relative risk, 1.83; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.30 to 2.58; $P < 0.001$).” [Reference 3]



TUISKU ET AL. CLINICAL TRIAL, 2024

“This randomized clinical trial found that varenicline and nicotine-containing electronic cigarettes were both effective in helping individuals in quitting smoking conventional cigarettes for up to 6 months.”
[Reference 4]

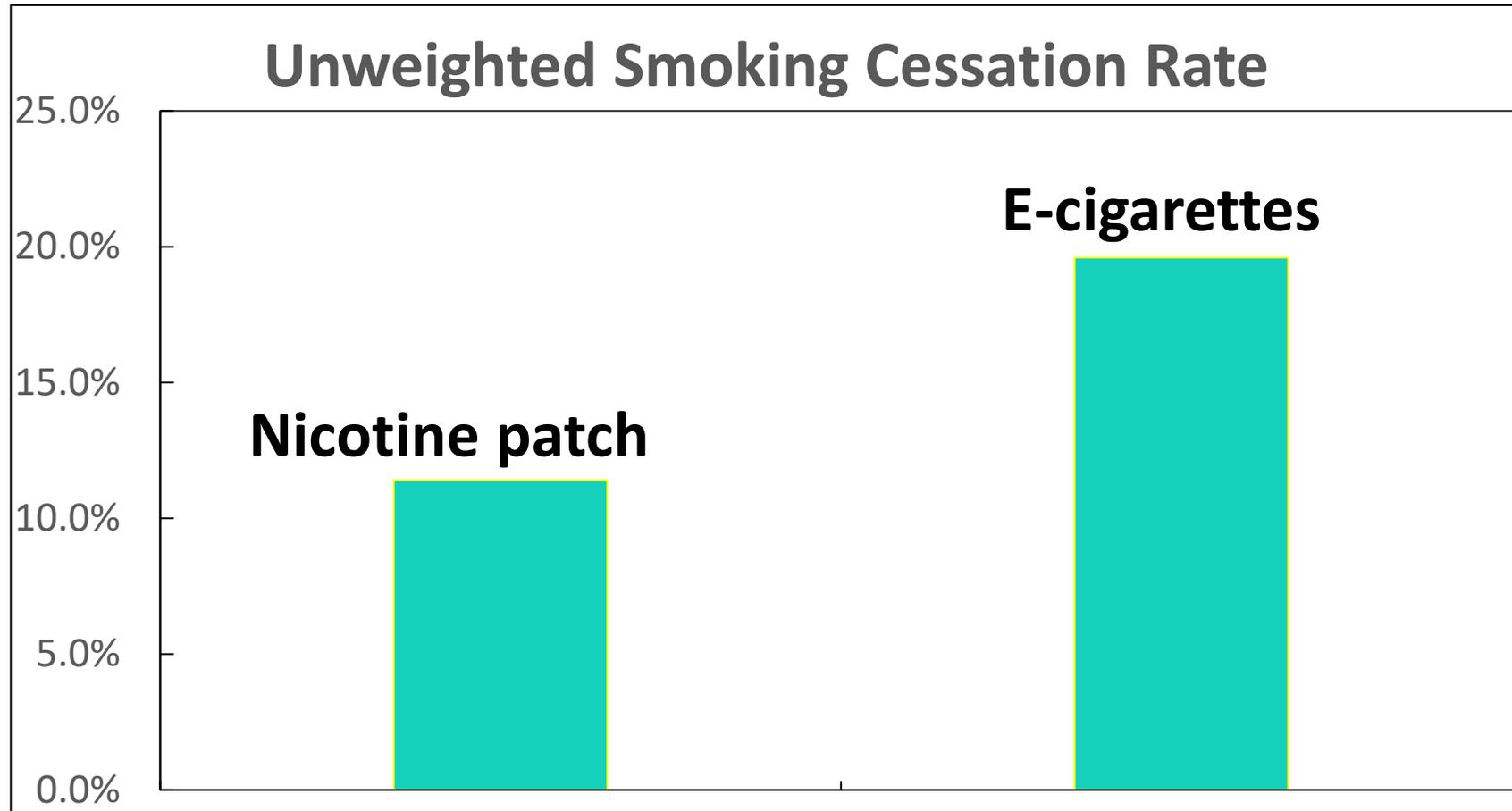


LEVETT ET AL. META-ANALYSIS, 2023

“Compared with conventional smoking cessation therapies, the use of nicotine e-cigarettes was associated with an increase in abstinence, defined by the most rigorous criterion of abstinence reported (RR 1.77; 95% CI, 1.29-2.44). [Reference 5]

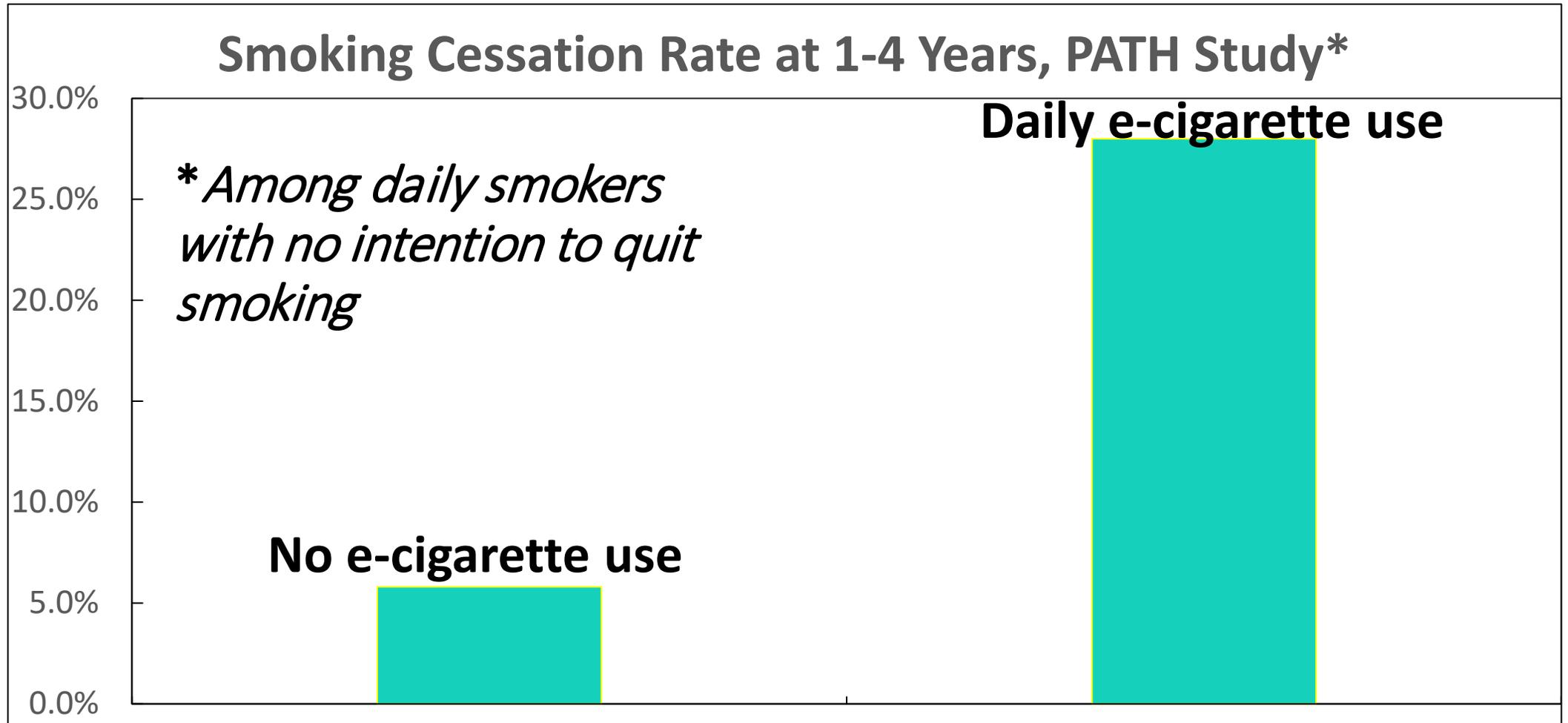
COCHRANE REVIEW, 2024

“There is high certainty that nicotine EC increases quit rates compared to nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) (RR 1.59, 95% CI 1.29 to 1.93; $I^2 = 0\%$; 7 studies, 2544 participants). [Reference 6]



KASZA ET AL., 2021

“Discontinuation rates were higher among those who used e-cigarettes daily (28.0%) ... compared with not at all (5.8%) ... adjusted odds ratio, 8.11; 95% CI, 3.14-20.97).” [Reference 7]



GIOVENCO AND DELNEVO, 2017 [REFERENCE 8]

- **National Health Interview Surveys, 2014 and 2015**
- **Of smokers who used e-cigarettes daily, 50.2% were able to quit over a 5-year period compared to 28% of those who did not use e-cigarettes.**
- **Non-daily use of e-cigarettes did not increase the rate of smoking cessation.**

FOXON AND NIAURA, 2025 [REFERENCE 9]

- **National Health Interview Survey, 2022**
- **1.2 million smokers quit completely using e-cigarettes.**
- **700,000 smokers quit completely by using e-cigarettes exclusively (no NRT)**
- **Only 300,000 smokers quit completely by using NRT exclusively (without e-cigarettes)**
- **Of smokers who tried to quit in the past year with the exclusive use of the nicotine patch, only 17% were successful.**
- **Of smokers who tried to quit in the past year with the exclusive use of e-cigarettes, 32% were successful.**

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