Effect of Flavored on!® Nicotine Pouch Products on Smoking Behaviors: A Sequential, Multiple Assignment, Randomized Controlled Trial

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Acknowledgements



Altria Client Services

Elizabeth Becker **Maria Gogova** Nadja Richter



Rose Research Center

David Botts Tanaia Botts Courtney Goodman-Capps Derek Mercedes Alfred Salley LaKeshia Scott Perry Willette



Health & Life Sciences

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Chris Freehauf Jason Isaacs **Sonam Lama Corey Neff**



Key Takeaways



Overall use of on!® nicotine pouch products led to CPD reduction

- Half of participants were able to reduce
 CPD by ≥50% by end of study
- Magnitude of reduction was statistically significant within each Study Arm
- Rescue effect for Delayed Access to Flavors
 - May be possible to ascertain need for "rescue" early



Access to Flavors increased incidence of smoke-free days early

Number of smoke-free days was modest

Flavors were used *more*, liked *more*, and had higher purchase intent

Objectives

Objectives were to assess effects of:

Availability of all flavors Early vs. delayed availability of all flavors

on smoking reduction





nicotine. Nicotine is an addictive chemical.



product contains nicotine. Nicotine is an addictive chemical.



WARNING: This product contains nicotine. Nicotine is an addictive chemical.



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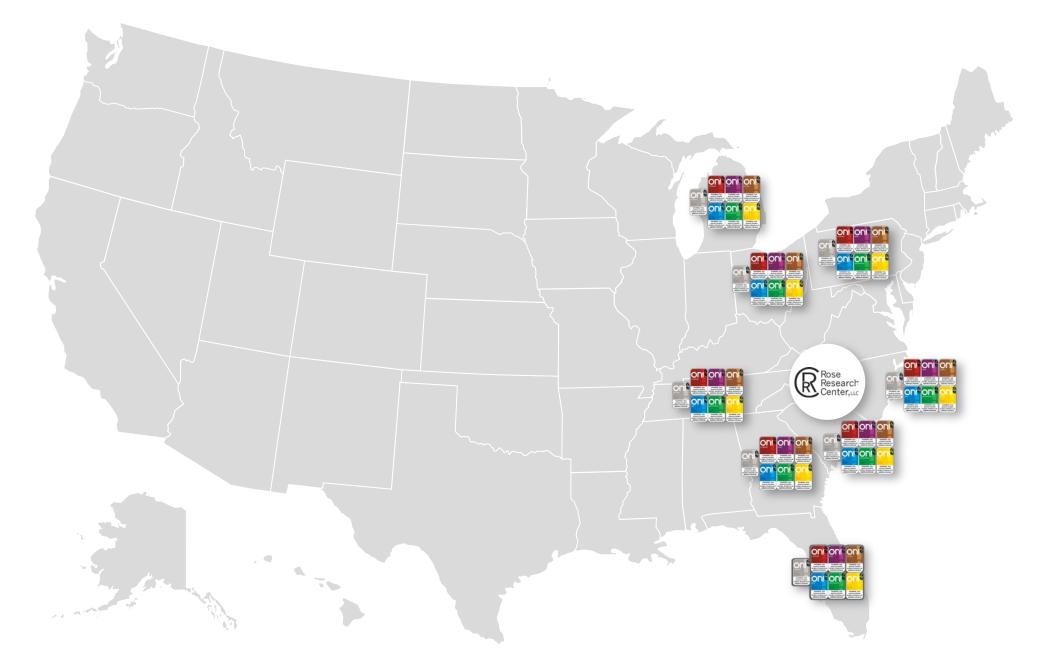
Measures & Outcomes

| Measure | Frequency Assessed | Binary | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|--|--|
| Expired-air CO | Every 3 Days | ≥50% Reduction from Baseline at Weeks 3 & 6 | | |
| Number of Cigarettes Smoked | Daily | ≥50% Reduction from Baseline at Weeks 3 & 6 | | |
| Liking | Week 6 | N/A | | |
| Purchase Intent | Week 6 | N/A | | |



Derived Outcomes:

- Smoking Abstinence: No cigarettes smoked and CO < 6 ppm for a given week
- Smoke-free Days: Number of days without smoking for a given week





Design

JMIR RESEARCH PROTOCOLS

Cheng et al

Protocol

Effect of Flavored on! Nicotine Pouch Products on Smoking Behaviors: Protocol for a Sequential, Multiple Assignment, Randomized Controlled Trial

Hui G Cheng¹, PhD; Jed E Rose², PhD; Joshua L Karelitz¹, PhD; David R Botts², MS; Tanaia L Botts², MS; Perry N Willette², MD; Gal Cohen², PhD

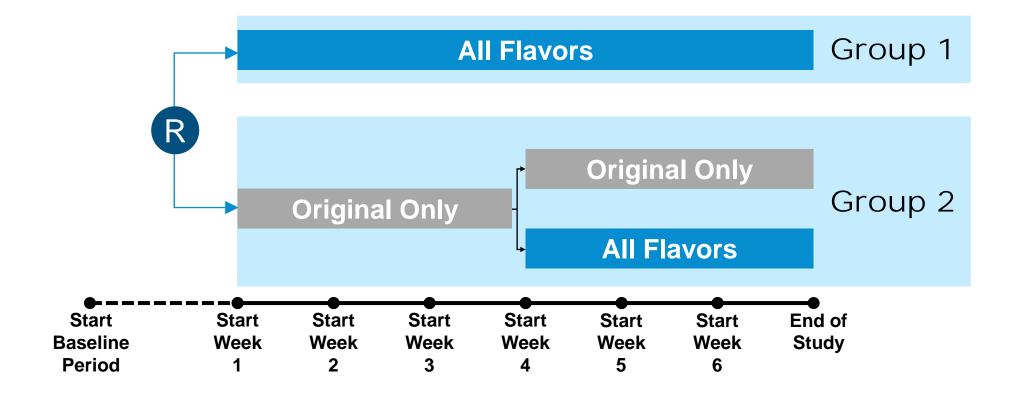
https://www.researchprotocols.org/2024/1/e56565 DOI: 10.2196/56565



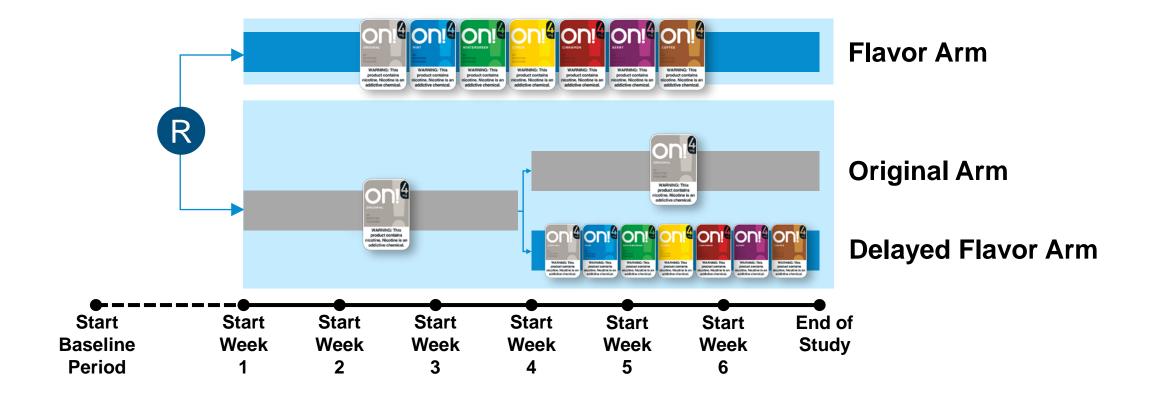
¹Altria Client Services, LLC, Richmond, VA, United States

²Rose Research Center, LLC, Raleigh, NC, United States

Design

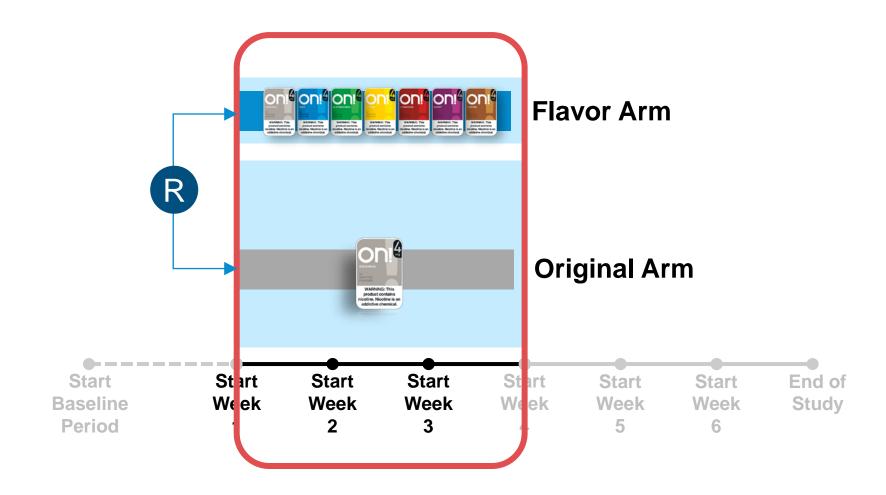


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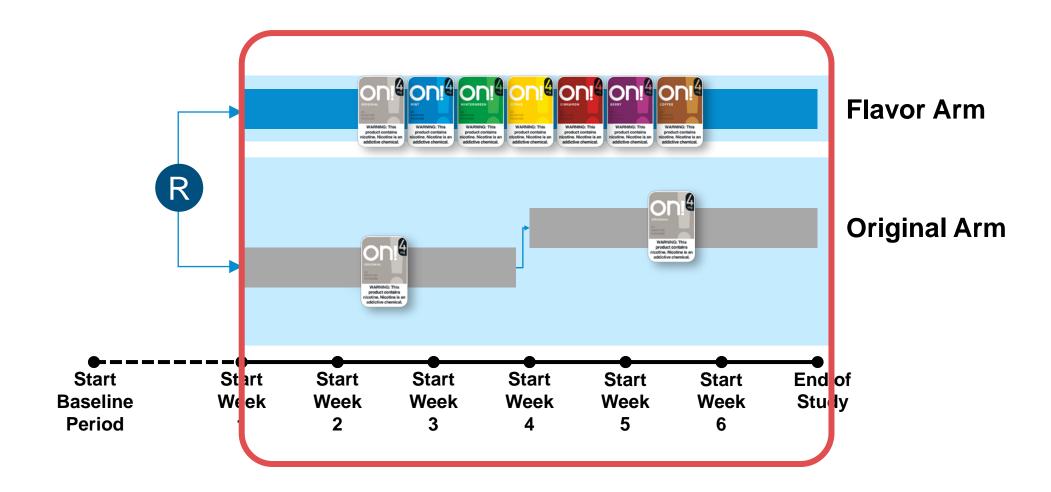


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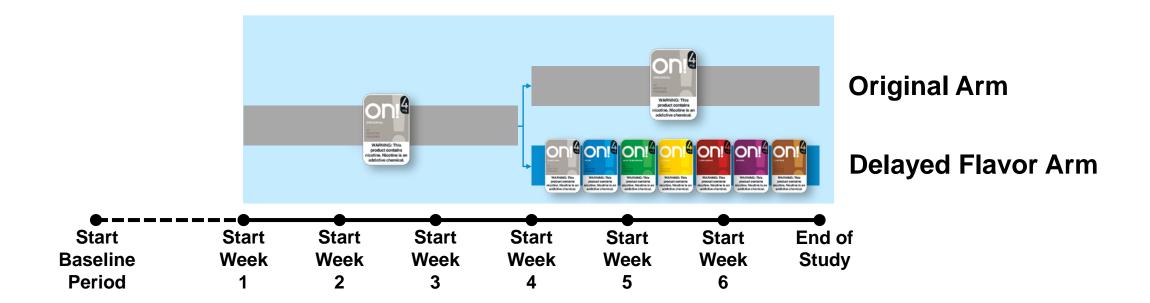


Design





-Design





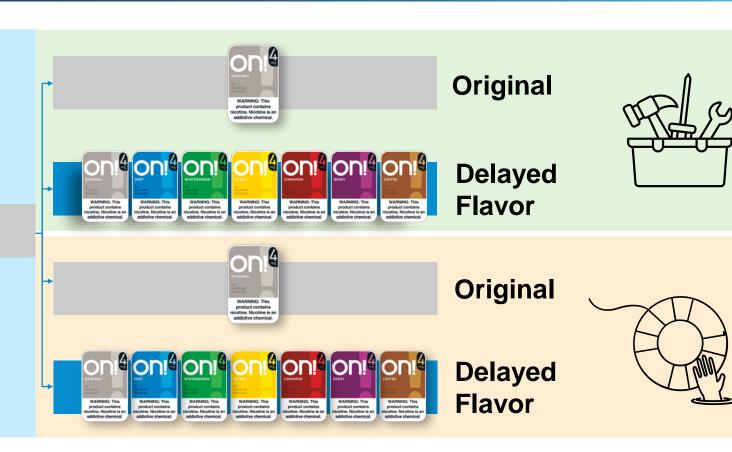
Design

Responders

≥50% CPD reduction from Baseline in Week 3



Non-Responders <50% CPD reduction from Baseline in Week 3





Start Week 2 Start Week

Start Week 4 Start Week 5 Start Week 6 End of Study



Study Population



Select Inclusion Criteria

Aged 22-65 years of age

 Verified via valid government-issued photo identification (e.g., driver's license, passport, etc.)



Smoked ≥5

cigarettes daily for ≥12 months prior to screening Did not intend to stop using tobacco products within 60 days of screening Interested in replacing cigarettes with a smoke-free nicotine/tobacco product at screening

Results



Sample Composition



Demographics

| | | Overall n=400 | Flavor n=151 | Original + Delayed Flavor n=249 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Sex n (%) | Female | 198 (49.5%) | 79 (52.3%) | 119 (47.8%) |
| | Male | 202 (50.5%) | 72 (47.7%) | 130 (52.2%) |
| Age n (%) | Mean (SD) | 43.8 (10.0) | 44.0 (9.9) | 43.6 (10.0) |
| | 21-34 | 83 (20.8%) | 28 (18.5%) | 55 (22.1%) |
| | 35-44 | 130 (32.5%) | 56 (37.1%) | 74 (29.7%) |
| | 45-49 | 54 (13.5%) | 13 (8.6%) | 41 (16.5%) |
| | 50-65 | 133 (33.3%) | 54 (35.8%) | 79 (31.7%) |
| Race / Ethnicity n (%) | White NH | 296 (74.0%) | 113 (74.8%) | 183 (73.5%) |
| | Black NH | 46 (11.5%) | 15 (9.9%) | 31 (12.5%) |
| | Other NH | 24 (6.0%) | 9 (6.0%) | 15 (6.0%) |
| | Hispanic | 34 (8.5%) | 14 (9.3%) | 20 (8.0%) |
| Education n (%) | Less than College | 211 (52.8%) | 68 (45.0%) | 143 (57.4%) |
| | Some College | 146 (36.5%) | 66 (43.7%) | 80 (32.1%) |
| | College or Higher | 43 (10.8%) | 17 (11.3%) | 26 (10.4%) |

Abbreviations: n=number; SD=standard deviation



Baseline Cigarette Use

| | | Overall n=399 | Flavor n=151 | Original + Delayed Flavor n=248 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Cigarettes Per Day n (%) | Mean (SD) | 13.0 (7.4) | 13.3 (7.7) | 12.8 (7.3) |
| | ≤10 CPD | 157 (39.4%) | 57 (37.8%) | 100 (40.3%) |
| | >10 CPD | 242 (60.7%) | 94 (62.3%) | 148 (59.7%) |

Abbreviations: n=number; SD=standard deviation; CPD=cigarettes per day Note. One participant in Original+Delayed Flavor Arm missing baseline CPD



Results



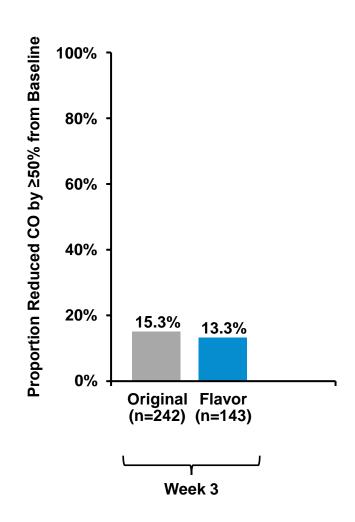
Smoking Reduction:

- CO Reduction
- CPD Reduction



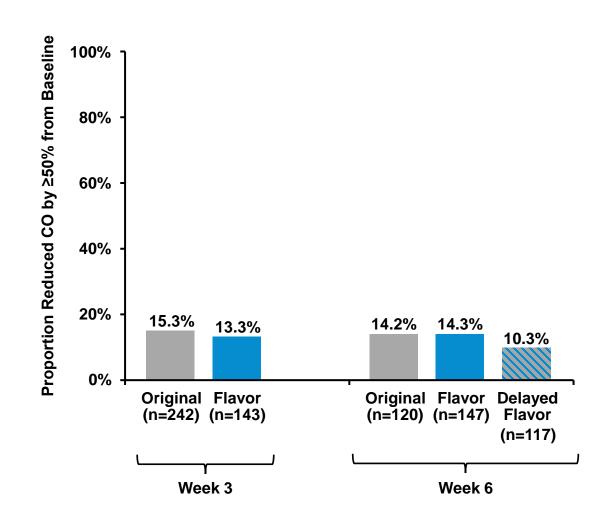
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No Differences for ≥50% CO Reduction



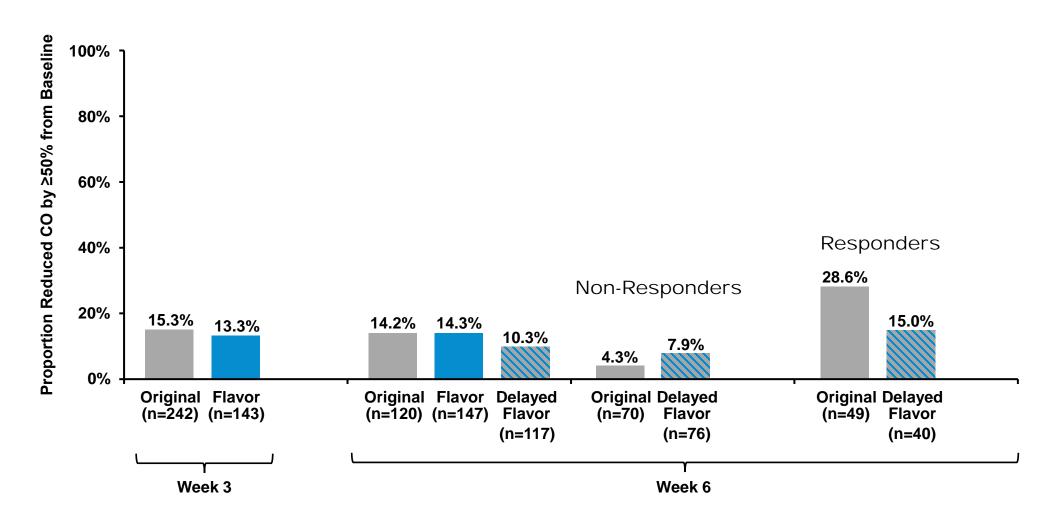


No Differences for ≥50% CO Reduction





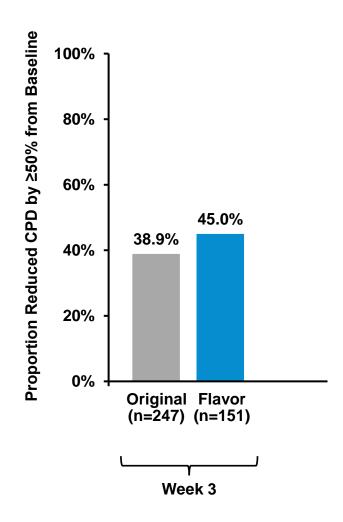
No Differences for ≥50% CO Reduction





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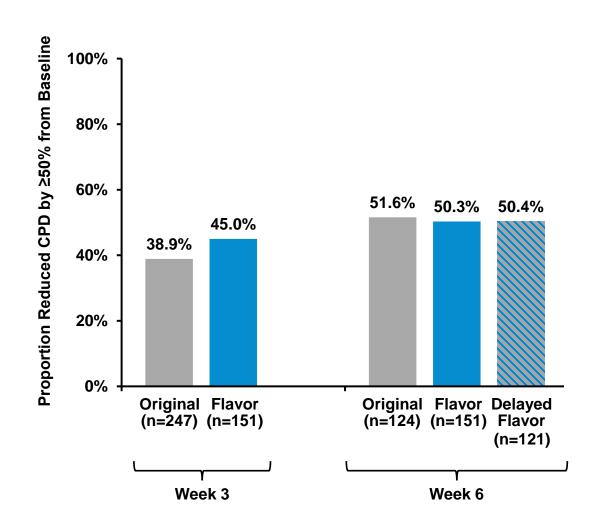
Rescue Effect for ≥50% CPD Reduction





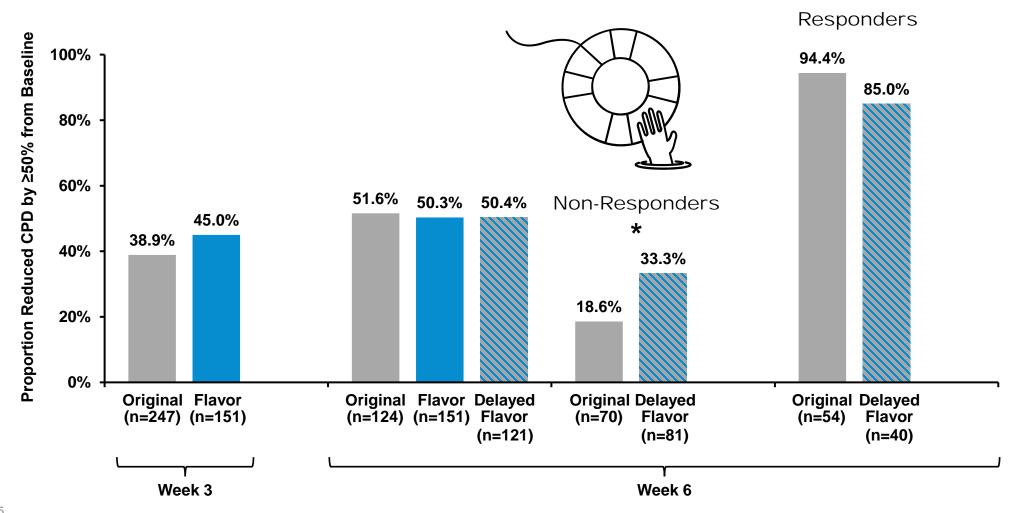
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Rescue Effect for ≥50% CPD Reduction





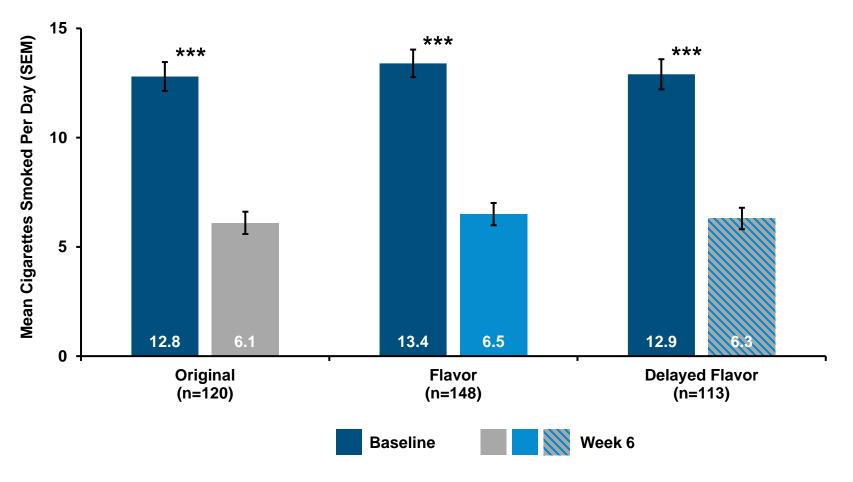
Rescue Effect for ≥50% CPD Reduction



^{*} Indicates p<0.05



CPD Significantly Reduced Among Those Smoking in Week 6





Among Those Smoking in Week 6:

Statistically significant CPD reduction within each Group

*** Indicates p<0.001



Results



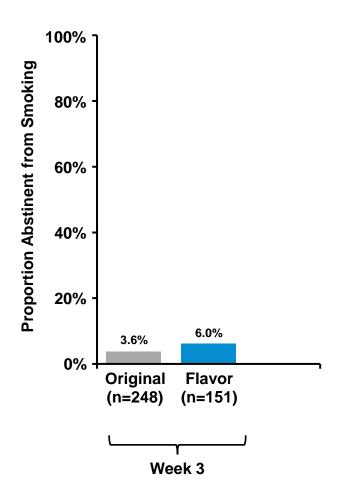
Smoking Abstinence:

- CO-Verified
- Self-Reported Smoke-free Days



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No Differences for CO-verified Smoking Abstinence

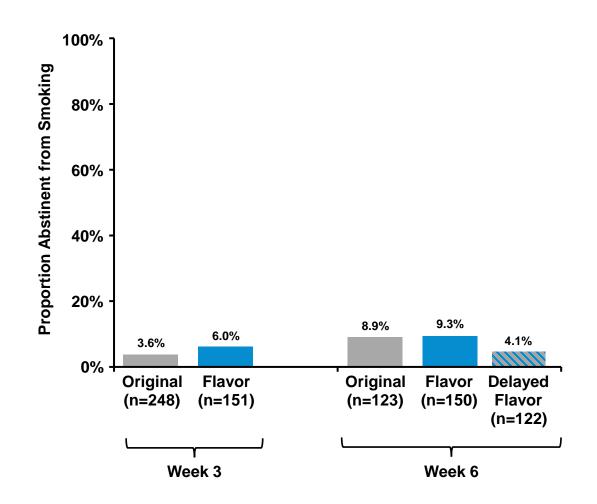


Smoking Abstinence defined as meeting both criteria: no self-reported cigarettes smoked and mean CO < 6 ppm for given week



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No Differences for CO-verified Smoking Abstinence

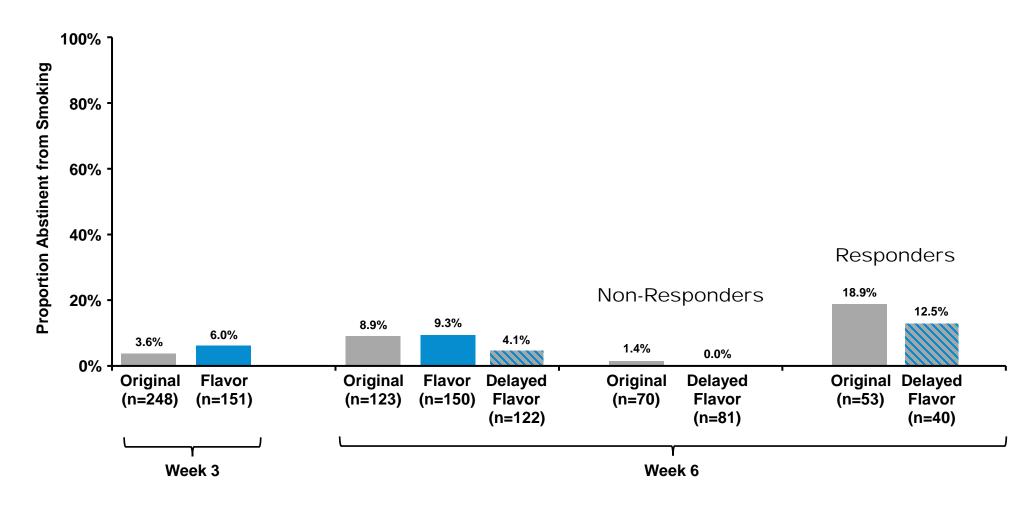


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No Differences for CO-verified Smoking Abstinence



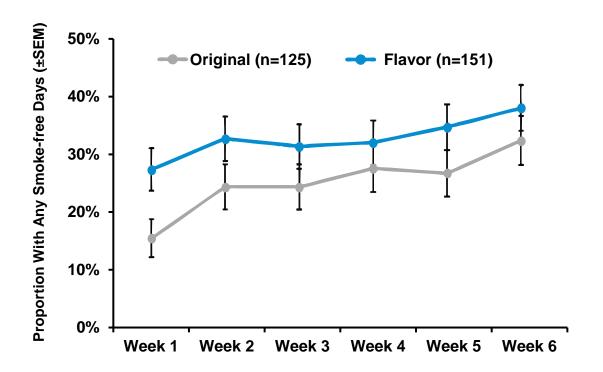
Smoking Abstinence defined as meeting both criteria: no self-reported cigarettes smoked and mean CO < 6 ppm for given week



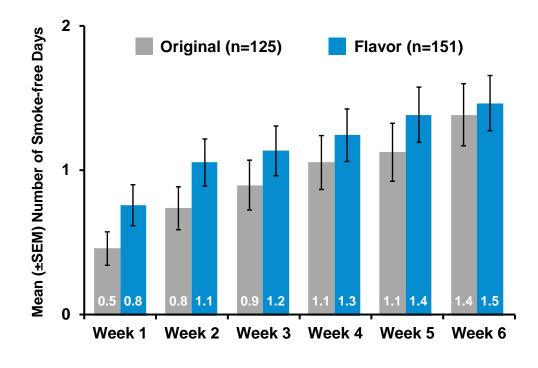
Flavor Availability Increased Incidence of Smoke-free Days

Stronger Effect for Flavor Earlier

- Larger proportion of Flavor Group reported Smoke-free Days
- Original lower at Week 1; caught up in Week 3



Similar Pattern for Number of Smoke-free Days





Results

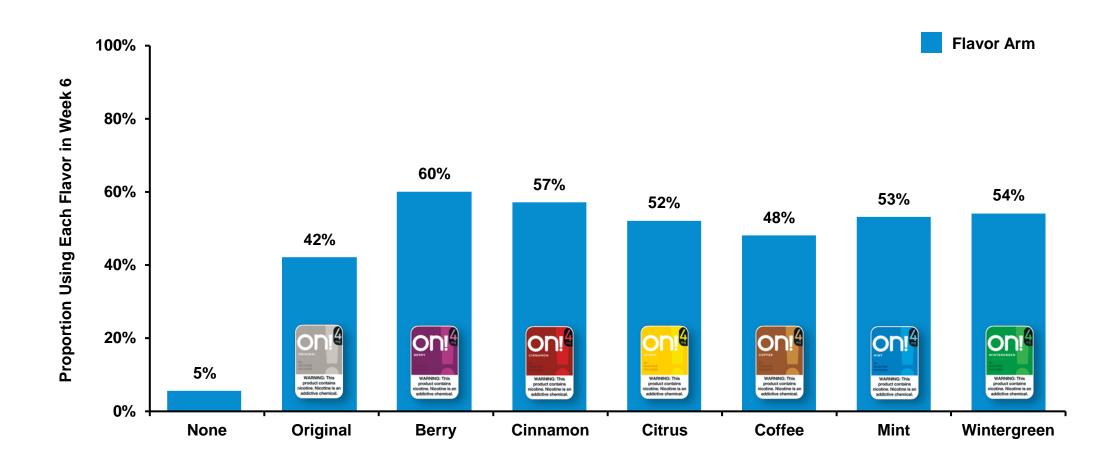


Week 6 Results:

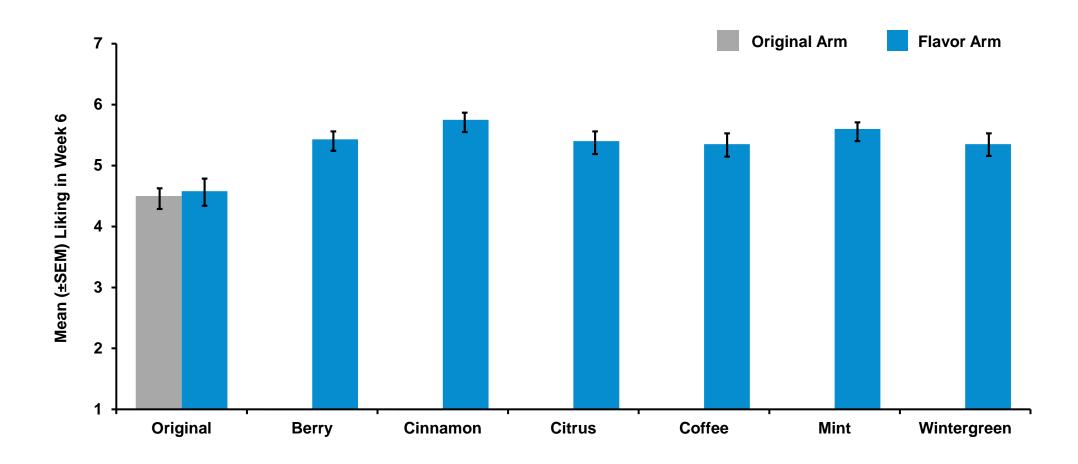
- Flavor Use
- Product Liking
- Purchase Intent



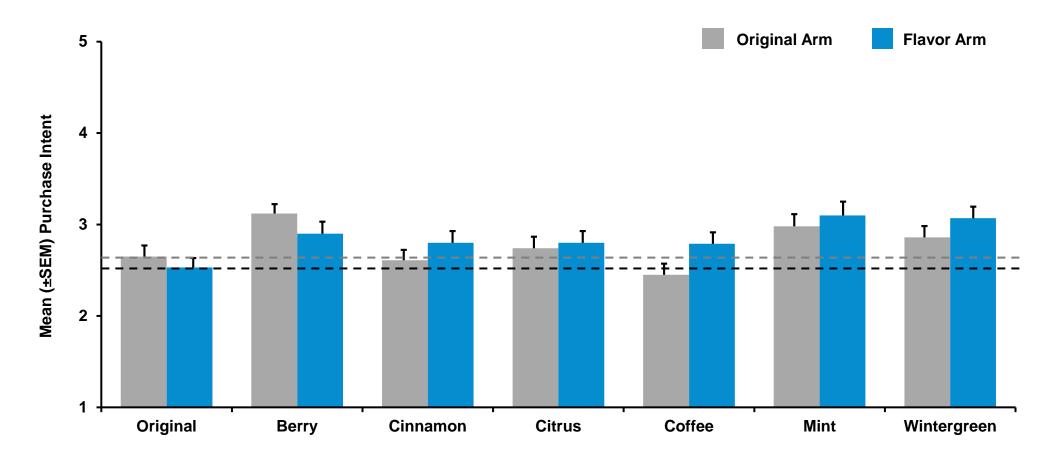
Flavors Used More than Original in Week 6



Flavors Liked More than Original



Higher Purchase Intent for Flavors



Original Arm was not provided flavors during the study, but they were asked about purchase intent for all flavors at end of study



Study Limitations





Could have artificially inflated use



- May not have met expectations for all participants
- Could have limited smoking reduction or abstinence

Expired-air CO measured once every three days

- Averaging CO across measurements separated by multiple days may not be a valid representation of smoking behavior
 - Half-life of CO is 2-8 hours (depending on physical activity level)

Key Takeaways



Overall use of on!® nicotine pouch products led to CPD reduction

- Half of participants were able to reduce
 CPD by ≥50% by end of study
- Magnitude of reduction was statistically significant within each Study Arm
- Rescue effect for Delayed Access to Flavors
 - May be possible to ascertain need for "rescue" early



Access to Flavors increased incidence of smoke-free days early

Number of smoke-free days was modest

Flavors were used *more*, liked *more*, and had higher purchase intent

Implications



Continued use of on!® nicotine pouch products can reduce cigarette smoking or lead to smoke-free days

Access to flavors had a stronger impact earlier

Occurs with access to Original, but takes longer and requires persistence

For adults who smoke cigarettes in the real world:

- Persistent use is unlikely if they do not like the product and are not seeing results
- Access to a variety of products that are liked and lead to desired results is critical
 - e.g., smoking reduction or complete switching away from cigarettes
- Actual Use or Longitudinal Cohort Studies may better characterize real-world use behaviors than an RCT

THANK YOU!

