



**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
AND MENTAL HYGIENE**  
Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH  
*Commissioner*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Thursday, May 5, 2016**  
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**STATEMENT FROM HEALTH COMMISSIONER DR. MARY T. BASSETT ON THE  
FDA'S EXTENSION OF REGULATORY AUTHORITY OVER E-CIGARETTES,  
CIGARS, AND HOOKAH**

**May 5, 2016** – “I am excited the FDA has taken this long-awaited step of asserting jurisdiction over cigars, electronic cigarettes, hookah and other tobacco products. We know that youth in New York City have been using these deadly and addictive products at increasing—and alarming—rates. This FDA action will reduce the number of youth who start smoking at an early age. Tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of death, and I look forward to the FDA’s next steps in providing even greater protection from deadly and addictive tobacco products.”

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