

CLAIMS:

1. An aerosol-generating article comprising a cartridge, the cartridge comprising:

5 a first compartment comprising a nicotine source;
 a second compartment comprising a lactic acid source; and
 a cavity for receiving a single heater configured to heat the
 nicotine source and the lactic acid source wherein the first compartment
 and the second compartment are arranged in parallel within the
10 cartridge.

2. An aerosol-generating article according to claim 1 wherein the cartridge further comprises a third compartment comprising an aerosol-modifying agent.

15 3. An aerosol-generating article according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the cartridge is substantially cylindrical and one or both of the opposed substantially planar end faces of the cartridge is sealed by one or more frangible or removable barriers.

20 4. An aerosol-generating article according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are configured such that the reaction stoichiometry between nicotine vapour and lactic acid vapour is balanced and controlled by the ratio of volumetric air flow through the first compartment and the second compartment.

25 5. An aerosol-generating system comprising:

 an aerosol generating article comprising,
 a cartridge comprising
 a first compartment comprising a nicotine source;
30 a second compartment comprising a lactic acid
 source; and
 a cavity for receiving a single heater configured to

heat the nicotine source and the lactic acid source wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are arranged in parallel within the cartridge; and an aerosol generating device comprising a single heater.

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6. An aerosol-generating system according to claim 5 wherein the heater is configured to heat the nicotine source and the lactic acid source to substantially the same temperature.

10 7. An aerosol-generating system according to claim 5 or 6 wherein the heater is configured to heat both the nicotine source and the lactic acid source to a temperature of between about 80°C and about 150°C.

15 8. An aerosol-generating system according to any one of claims 5 to 7 wherein the cartridge further comprises a third compartment comprising an aerosol-modifying agent.

20 9. An aerosol-generating system according to any one of claims 5 to 8 wherein the cartridge is substantially cylindrical and one or both of the opposed substantially planar end faces of the cartridge is sealed by one or more frangible or removable barriers.

25 10. An aerosol-generating system according to claim 9 wherein the aerosol-generating device further comprises one or more piercing members configured to rupture the one or more frangible barriers.

30 11. An aerosol-generating system according to any one of claims 5 to 10 wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are configured such that the reaction stoichiometry between nicotine vapour and lactic acid vapour is balanced and controlled by the ratio of volumetric air flow through the first compartment and the second compartment.

12. An aerosol-generating system according to any one of claims 5 to 11 wherein the single heater is an elongate internal electric heating element in the form of a heater blade.

5 13. An aerosol-generating device comprising:

a body portion comprising a single heater; and

a mouthpiece portion configured for engagement with the body portion,

10 the aerosol-generating device being configured to receive an aerosol-generating article comprising a cartridge comprising a first compartment comprising a nicotine source, a second compartment comprising a lactic acid source and a cavity such that the single heater of the body portion is received in the cavity, wherein the first compartment and the second compartment are arranged in parallel within the cartridge.

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14. An aerosol-generating device according to claim 13 wherein the single heater is an elongate internal electric heating element in the form of a heater blade.

20 15. A method of controlling the reaction stoichiometry between nicotine vapour and lactic acid vapour in an aerosol-generating system for the *in situ* generation of an aerosol comprising nicotine lactate salt particles, the method comprising controlling the ratio of the volumetric airflow through a first compartment comprising a nicotine source and a second compartment
25 comprising a lactic acid source.