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Subject: STAN Bulletin: 17th Edition: 23-July-2012

Smoking & Tobacco Abstracts & News

STAN Bulletin
17th Edition
23-July-2012

Editor's note: The editorial from a leading Virginia newspaper, the *Richmond Times-Dispatch*, [Altria: For the arts](#), beggars belief. As powerful as the tobacco industry may be, it's still difficult to imagine in 2012 that a fairly big city newspaper could toady to Philip Morris in this way. Several times in the past, I've quoted a [line](#) in Alfred Hitchcock's film *Psycho* in which a rich man buys his daughter a phenomenally expensive house as a wedding gift and claims "that's not buying happiness. That's just... buying off unhappiness." Similarly, Philip Morris, now based in the Richmond area, buys off the unhappiness it could normally expect from a serious newspaper. The American writer [Upton Sinclair](#) also put it well: "It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends on his not understanding it."

Stan Shatenstein

In the News:

- Australia: [Superannuation fund excludes all tobacco-related companies from investment portfolios](#)
- Australia: Victoria: [Number of smokers drops to new low, fewer than 15% for first time: Video](#)
- Canada: [Smoking issues plague condo corporations, may be subject to penalties](#)
- China: [WHO: Health workers unaware of tobacco dangers; Many doctors, nurses still smoke](#)
 - EU: [European Cigarette Industry Is Getting Slammed By The Euro Crisis: PMI Earnings Results](#)
- Fiji: [Health Ministry confirms cigarette packets to have pictorial labels by January 1st, 2013](#)
- France: Paris: [City Wants Smokers to Kick a Bad Habit: Tossing Butts in the Street](#)
- India: New Delhi: [Capital residents least interested in quitting smoking: Study](#)
- NZ: [Tobacco retail display ban comes into force, marketing loophole eliminated \[Video\] \[PR\]](#)
- NZ: [Government facing showdown with tobacco giants; PM: Plain packs no sure thing; Theft fears](#)
- NZ: [PM: Tobacco giant's campaign 'disturbing'; DiFranza: Cynical site: My Opinion Counts](#)
- Saudi Arabia: [Judge rules women can divorce husbands who start smoking after they marry](#)
- Sri Lanka: [Government decision hailed confirming pictorial warnings on cigarette packs, SHS ban](#)
- UK: [Imperial Tobacco threatens legal action against Government if it implements cigarette plain packaging](#)
- UK: [Cancer Research Survey: Most regret ever starting smoking](#)
- US: [Fatter of Two Evils: Why more fear gaining weight than smoking cigarettes \[BMJ: Aubin; AJPM: Levine\]](#)
- US: [Republic Tobacco for sale, maker of Drum, may get over \\$2 billion](#)
- US: GA: Atlanta: [City Curbs Smoking, Part of Southern Wave of Bans](#)
- US: VA: [PM: Richmond Times-Dispatch: Editorial: Altria: For the arts](#)
- Zimbabwe: [In Land Takeover, a Golden Lining as Tobacco Firms Help Farmers](#)

In this Edition:

- Addiction - Meyer: US: Military Health System: Neuropsychiatric events in varenicline & NRT patch users
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- Drug Alc Depend - Weinberger: US: Dysthymia, minor depression, gender & smoking: Longitudinal evaluation
- EHP - Cupul-Uicab: Norway: MoBa: In Utero & Subsequent Plasma Lipids, ApoB & CRP among Adult Women
- Env Health Prev Med - Matsumoto: Japan: Smoking topography & exposure biomarkers: cigarette machine

emissions

- Eur Neuropsychopharm - Bron: NL: ADHD: Methylphenidate & tobacco consumption & nicotine craving in adults
- Health Commun - Davis: US: Perceived Effectiveness of Cessation Ads: Audience Reactions & Practical Implications
- Influenza Oth Resp Vir - Wong: Hong Kong: Smoking as influenza-associated mortality risk factor: elderly cohort
- Int J COPD - Rycroft: Epidemiology of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: literature review
- Mil Med - Ornelas: US: KS: Fort Riley: Prevalence of tobacco use among active duty soldiers
- PLoS One - de Viron: Genetic notification impact on smoking cessation: systematic review & pooled-analysis
- Prev Chron Dis - Kruger: US: Health care provider advice to quit smoking, national survey, 2000, 2005 & 2010
- Prev Med - Schwarzer: Germany: Online Intervention Engagement Predicts Smoking Cessation
- Tob Control - Choi: US: Upper Midwest region: Awareness, perceptions & snus use among young adults
- Tob Control - Patel: NZ: Cigarette butt littering in city streets: new methodology for studying & results
- Tob Control - Siu: Canada: Analysis of mainstream smoke emissions of 'super slim' cigarettes
- Transl Psych - Agrawal: Genetics of addiction: translational perspective
- West Ind Med J - Obradovic: Serbia: Role of smoking in periodontal disease among diabetic patients

Abstracts:

Neuropsychiatric events in varenicline and nicotine replacement patch users in the Military Health System

Addiction

[Accepted Article. These manuscripts have been accepted, but have not been edited or formatted. They will be published at a future date.](#)

Accepted manuscript online: **19 JUL 2012**

Tamra E. Meyer, Lockwood G. Taylor, Suji Xie, David J. Graham, Andrew D. Mosholder, James R. Williams, David Moeny, Rita P. Ouellet-Hellstrom and Trinkka S. Coster

Abstract

Aim

To determine the rate ratio of neuropsychiatric hospitalizations in new users of varenicline compared to new users of nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) patch in the Military Health System (MHS).

Design, Setting, and Participants

Varenicline (n=19,933) and NRT patch (n=15,867) users who initiated therapy from August 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007 within the MHS were included in this retrospective cohort study. After matching according to propensity scores, 10,814 users remained in each cohort. The study population included those with and without a history of neuropsychiatric disease.

Measurements

Patients were followed for neuropsychiatric hospitalizations defined by primary neuropsychiatric discharge diagnosis using ICD-9 codes from inpatient administrative claims. Hazard ratios (HR) and 95% confidence intervals (CI) were estimated after propensity score matching on exposure for socio-demographic factors, healthcare utilization, co-morbidities, medication history, and neuropsychiatric history.

Findings

There was no increase in the rate of neuropsychiatric hospitalizations in patients treated with varenicline compared to NRT patch when followed for 30 days (propensity-score matched HR=1.14, 95% CI=0.56-2.34). Results were similar after 60 days of follow-up.

Conclusions

There does not appear to be an increase in neuropsychiatric hospitalizations with varenicline compared with nicotine replacement therapy patch over 30 or 60 days after drug initiation.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1360-0443.2012.04024.x/abstract>

Tobacco Crop Substitution: Pilot Effort in China

[Am J Public Health.](#) 2012 Jul 19. [Epub ahead of print]

[Li VC](#), [Wang Q](#), [Xia N](#), [Tang S](#), [Wang CC](#).

Abstract

In China, approximately 20 million farmers produce the world's largest share of tobacco. Showing that income from crop substitution can exceed that from tobacco growth is essential to persuading farm families to stop planting tobacco, grown abundantly in Yunnan Province. In the Yuxi Municipality, collaborators from the Yuxi Bureau of Agriculture and the University of California at Los Angeles School of Public Health initiated a tobacco crop substitution project. At 3 sites, 458 farm families volunteered to participate in a new, for-profit cooperative model. This project successfully identified an approach engaging farmers in cooperatives to substitute food crops for tobacco, thereby increasing farmers' annual income between 21% and 110% per acre.

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2012.300733>

e-Cigarette Awareness, Use, and Harm Perceptions in US Adults

[Am J Public Health.](#) 2012 Jul 19. [Epub ahead of print]

[Pearson JL](#), [Richardson A](#), [Niaura RS](#), [Vallone DM](#), [Abrams DB](#).

Abstract

Objectives. We estimated e-cigarette (electronic nicotine delivery system) awareness, use, and harm perceptions among US adults. **Methods.** We drew data from 2 surveys conducted in 2010: a national online study (n = 2649) and the Legacy Longitudinal Smoker Cohort (n = 3658). We used multivariable models to examine e-cigarette awareness, use, and harm perceptions. **Results.** In the online survey, 40.2% (95% confidence interval [CI] = 37.3, 43.1) had heard of e-cigarettes, with awareness highest among current smokers. Utilization was higher among current smokers (11.4%; 95% CI = 9.3, 14.0) than in the total population (3.4%; 95% CI = 2.6, 4.2), with 2.0% (95% CI = 1.0, 3.8) of former smokers and 0.5% (95% CI = 0.16, 1.4) of never-smokers ever using e-cigarettes. In both surveys, non-Hispanic Whites, current smokers, young adults, and those with at least a high-school diploma were most likely to perceive e-cigarettes as less harmful than regular cigarettes. **Conclusions.** Awareness of e-cigarettes is high, and use among current and former smokers is evident. We recommend product regulation and careful surveillance to monitor public health impact and emerging utilization patterns, and to ascertain why, how, and under what conditions e-cigarettes are being used.

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2011.300526>

Related AJPH study & news coverage:

Young Adults' Favorable Perceptions of Snus, Dissolvable Tobacco Products, and Electronic Cigarettes: Findings From a Focus Group Study

<http://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2011.300525>

Are E-Cigarettes Here to Stay? - WebMD

<http://www.webmd.com/smoking-cessation/news/20120720/are-e-cigarettes-here-to-stay>

Vitamin D deficiency, Smoking, and Lung Function in the Normative Aging Study

***Am. J. Respir. Crit. Care Med.* rccm.201110-1868OC First published online July 19, 2012**

Nancy E. Lange, David Sparrow, Pantel Vokonas, and Augusto A. Litonjua

Abstract

Rationale: Vitamin D has immunomodulatory and anti-inflammatory effects which may be modified by cigarette smoke and affect lung function.

Objectives: To examine the effect of vitamin D deficiency and smoking on lung function and lung function decline.

Methods: 626 men from the Normative Aging Study had 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels measured at 3 different times between 1984 and 2003 with concurrent spirometry. Vitamin D deficiency was defined as serum level \leq 20ng/ml. Statistical analysis was performed using multivariable linear regression and mixed effects models.

Measurements and Main Results: In the overall cohort, there was no significant effect of vitamin D deficiency on lung function nor on lung function decline. In both cross-sectional and longitudinal multivariable models there was effect modification by vitamin D status on the association between smoking and lung function. Cross-sectional analysis revealed lower lung function in current smokers with vitamin D deficiency (FEV1, FVC, and FEV1/FVC, $p \leq 0.0002$) and longitudinal analysis showed more rapid rates of decline in FEV1 ($p=0.023$) per pack-year of smoking in subjects with vitamin D deficiency as compared to subjects who were vitamin D sufficient.

Conclusions: Vitamin D deficiency was associated with lower lung function and more rapid lung function decline in smokers over 20 years in this longitudinal cohort of elderly men. This suggests that vitamin D sufficiency may have a protective effect against the damaging effects of smoking on lung function. Future studies should seek to confirm this finding in the context of smoking and other exposures that affect lung function.

<http://ajrccm.atsjournals.org/content/early/2012/07/18/rccm.201110-1868OC.abstract>

<http://www.thoracic.org//media/press-releases/resources/Lange.pdf>

Related PR:

Vitamin D May Protect Lung Function in Smokers

<http://www.newswise.com/articles/vitamin-d-may-protect-lung-function-in-smokers>

Exploring factors influencing smoking behaviour in Malaysia

[Asian Pac J Cancer Prev. 2012;13\(4\):1125-30.](#)

[Cheah YK, Naidu BM.](#)

Abstract

Objective: The objective of present study is to investigate the determinants of smoking behaviour among adults in Malaysia. Method: Findings of the Third National Health and Morbidity Survey (NHMS-3) by the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, were used. The sample consisted of 34,539 observations. A logistic regression model was thus applied to estimate the probability to participate in smoking. Results: Age, income, gender, marital status, ethnicity, employment status, residential area, education, lifestyle and health status were statistically significant in affecting the likelihood of smoking. Specifically, youngsters, low income earners, males, unmarried individuals, Malays, employed individuals, rural residents and primary educated individuals were more likely to smoke. Conclusion: In conclusion, socio-demographic, lifestyle and health factors have significant impacts on smoking participation in Malaysia. Based on these empirical findings, several policy implications are suggested.

http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/page/apjcp_issues_view.php?pno=2952&gubun=p&s_search=&s_paper_vol=&s_number33=

http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/paper_file/issue_abs/Volume13_No4/1125-30%203.16%20Yong%20Kang%20Cheah.pdf

Also:

Validity and Reliability of the Fagerstrom Test for Cigarette Dependence in a Sample of Arabic Speaking UK-Resident Yemeni Khat Chewers

http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/page/apjcp_issues_view.php?pno=2979&gubun=p&s_search=&s_paper_vol=&s_number33=

http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/paper_file/issue_abs/Volume13_No4/1285-88%203.16%20Saba%20Abdulla%20Kassim.pdf

Health and economic burden of major cancers due to smoking in Korea

http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/page/apjcp_issues_view.php?pno=3019&gubun=p&s_search=&s_paper_vol=&s_number33=

http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/paper_file/issue_abs/Volume13_No4/1525-31%201.28%20In-Hwan%20Oh.pdf

Prevalence and Correlation of Oral Lesions among Tobacco Smokers, Tobacco Chewers, Areca Nut and Alcohol Users
http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/page/apjcp_issues_view.php?pno=3039&gubun=p&s_search=&s_paper_vol=&s_number33=
http://www.apjcpcontrol.org/paper_file/issue_abs/Volume13_No4/1633-37%202.8%20Sujatha%20D.pdf

Note: Open Access. Full text PDFs freely available from links immediately above.

Exploring the relationship between premarital sex and cigarette/alcohol use among college students in Taiwan: a cohort study

BMC Public Health. 2012 Jul 18;12(1):527. [Epub ahead of print]

[Chiao C.](#), [Yi CC.](#), [Ksobiech K.](#)

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Cigarette/alcohol use and premarital sex, and their subsequent consequences on the well-being of college students, are international health promotion issues. However, little is known about the temporal relationship of these risk behaviors among Taiwanese college students.

METHODS:

This study utilizes data from the Taiwan Youth Project, a cohort sample of 20-year-olds (N=2,119) with a 2-year follow-up, to explore the relationship between adolescent cigarette/alcohol use, and subsequent premarital sex. To incorporate the Taiwanese context where the normative value of abstinence until marriage remains strong, multivariate logistic regression models included data on premarital sex attitudes, stressful life events, peer influence, as well as family and individual factors which might influence this relationship.

RESULTS:

The sample consists of 49% male and 51% female college students. About 16% of the sample report having had premarital sex by age 20. After excluding sexually active youth, 20% of males and 13% of females report engaging in premarital sex in the 2-year follow-up interview. Multivariate logistic regression analyses reveal adolescent alcohol use is significantly associated with a higher likelihood of engaging in premarital sex for both genders; adolescent smoking is significantly associated with premarital sexual activity among males, but not females. Our results indicate liberal premarital sexual attitudes and stressful personal events are also significantly associated with premarital sexual activity.

CONCLUSIONS:

These findings suggest health promotion programs for college students need to take developmental and gender perspectives into account. Future research to incorporate a broader, multi-cultural context into risk reduction materials is recommended.

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/12/527>

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-12-527.pdf>

Also:

Factors associated with suicidal behaviors in mainland China: a meta-analysis

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2458/12/524/abstract>

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2458-12-524.pdf>

Note: Open Access. Full text PDFs freely available from links immediately above.

Brain stimulation methods to treat tobacco addiction

Brain Stimul. 2012 Jul 9. [Epub ahead of print]

[Wing VC](#), [Barr MS](#), [Wass CE](#), [Lipsman N](#), [Lozano AM](#), [Daskalakis ZJ](#), [George TP](#).

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Tobacco smoking is the leading cause of preventable deaths worldwide, but many smokers are simply unable to quit. Psychosocial and pharmaceutical treatments have shown modest results on smoking cessation rates, but there is an urgent need to develop treatments with greater efficacy. Brain stimulation methods are gaining increasing interest as possible addiction therapeutics.

OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this paper is to review the studies that have evaluated brain stimulation techniques on tobacco addiction, and discuss future directions for research in this novel area of addiction interventions.

METHODS:

Electronic and manual literature searches identified fifteen studies that administered repetitive transcranial magnetic stimulation (rTMS), cranial electrostimulation (CES), transcranial direct current stimulation (tDCS) or deep brain stimulation (DBS).

RESULTS:

rTMS was found to be the most well studied method with respect to tobacco addiction. Results indicate that rTMS and tDCS targeted to the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex (DLPFC) were the most efficacious in reducing tobacco cravings, an effect that may be mediated through the brain reward system involved in tobacco addiction. While rTMS was shown to reduce consumption of cigarettes, as yet no brain stimulation technique has been shown to significantly increase abstinence rates. It is possible that the therapeutic effects of rTMS and tDCS may be improved by optimization of stimulation parameters and increasing the duration of treatment.

CONCLUSION:

Although further studies are needed to confirm the ability of brain stimulation methods to treat tobacco addiction, this review indicates that rTMS and tDCS both represent potentially novel treatment modalities.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1935861X12001349>

The relationship of dysthymia, minor depression, and gender to changes in smoking for current and former smokers: Longitudinal evaluation in the U.S. population

[Drug Alcohol Depend.](#) 2012 Jul 16. [Epub ahead of print]

[Weinberger AH](#), [Pilver CE](#), [Desai RA](#), [Mazure CM](#), [McKee SA](#).

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Although data clearly link major depression and smoking, little is known about the association between dysthymia and minor depression and smoking behavior. The current study examined changes in smoking over 3years for current and former smokers with and without dysthymia and minor depression.

METHODS:

Participants who were current or former daily cigarette smokers at Wave 1 of the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions and completed the Wave 2 assessment were included in these analyses (n=11,973; 46% female). Analyses examined the main and gender-specific effects of current dysthymia, lifetime dysthymia, and minor depression (a single diagnostic category that denoted current and/or lifetime prevalence) on continued smoking for Wave 1 current daily smokers and continued abstinence for Wave 1 former daily smokers.

RESULTS:

Wave 1 current daily smokers with current dysthymia (OR=2.13, 95% CI=1.23, 3.70) or minor depression (OR=1.53, 95% CI=1.07, 2.18) were more likely than smokers without the respective diagnosis to report continued smoking at Wave 2. Wave 1 former daily smokers with current dysthymia (OR=0.44, 95% CI=0.20, 0.96) and lifetime dysthymia (OR=0.37, 95% CI=0.15, 0.91) were less likely than those without the diagnosis to remain abstinent from smoking at Wave 2. The gender-by-diagnosis interactions were not significant, suggesting that the impact of dysthymia and minor depression on smoking behavior is similar among men and women.

CONCLUSIONS:

Current dysthymia and minor depression are associated with a greater likelihood of continued smoking; current and lifetime dysthymia are associated with a decreased likelihood of continued smoking abstinence.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0376871612002608>

Also:

Utilizing a multimodal assessment strategy to examine variations of impulsivity among young adults engaged in co-occurring smoking and binge drinking behaviors

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S037687161200258X>

Exposure to Tobacco Smoke in Utero and Subsequent Plasma Lipids, ApoB and CRP among Adult Women in the MoBa Cohort

[Environ Health Perspect.](#) 2012 Jul 19. [Epub ahead of print]

[Cupul-Uicab LA](#), [Skjaerven R](#), [Haug K](#), [Travlos GS](#), [Wilson RE](#), [Eggesbø M](#), [Hoppin JA](#), [Whitworth KW](#), [Longnecker MP](#).

Abstract

Background: Recent findings suggest that maternal smoking during pregnancy may play a role in the development of metabolic alterations in offspring during childhood. However, whether such exposure increases the risk of developing similar metabolic alterations during adulthood is uncertain. Objective: To evaluate the association of in utero exposure to maternal tobacco smoke with plasma lipids, apolipoprotein B (apoB), and C-reactive protein (CRP) in adulthood. Methods: The study was based on a subsample of the Norwegian Mother and Child Cohort Study (MoBa), and included 479 pregnant women with a measure of plasma lipids, apoB, and CRP. In utero exposure to tobacco smoke (yes vs. no), personal smoking, and other factors were obtained by a self-completed questionnaire at enrollment (~17 weeks of gestation). Results: Women exposed to tobacco smoke in utero had higher triglycerides (10.7% higher; 95% confidence interval [CI]: 3.9, 17.9) and lower high-density lipoprotein (HDL) cholesterol (-1.9 mg/dL; 95% CI: -4.3, 0.5) compared with unexposed women, after adjusting for age, physical activity, education, personal smoking, and current body mass index (BMI). Exposed women were also more likely to have triglycerides ≥ 200 mg/dL [adjusted odds ratio (aOR)=2.5; 95% CI: 1.3, 5.1] and HDL < 50 mg/dL (aOR=2.3; 95% CI: 1.1, 5.0). Low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, total cholesterol, and apoB were not associated with the exposure. CRP was increased among exposed women, but after adjustment for BMI the association was completely attenuated. Conclusions: In this population, in utero exposure to tobacco smoke was associated with high triglycerides and low HDL cholesterol in adulthood, 18 to 44 years after exposure.

<http://ehp03.niehs.nih.gov/article/fetchArticle.action?articleURI=info%3Adoi%2F10.1289%2Fehp.1104563>

Related EHP paper:

In Utero Exposure to Maternal Tobacco Smoke and Subsequent Obesity, Hypertension, and Gestational Diabetes Among Women in The MoBa Cohort

<http://ehp03.niehs.nih.gov/article/info:doi/10.1289/ehp.1103789>

Note: Open Access. Full text PDFs freely available from links immediately above.

Smoking topography and biomarkers of exposure among Japanese smokers: associations with cigarette emissions obtained using machine smoking protocols

[Environ Health Prev Med.](#) 2012 Jul 19. [Epub ahead of print]

[Matsumoto M](#), [Inaba Y](#), [Yamaguchi I](#), [Endo O](#), [Hammond D](#), [Uchiyama S](#), [Suzuki G](#).

Abstract

OBJECTIVES:

Although the relative risk of lung cancer due to smoking is reported to be lower in Japan than in other countries, few studies have examined the characteristics of Japanese cigarettes or potential differences in smoking patterns among Japanese smokers.

METHODS:

To examine tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide (TNCO) emissions from ten leading cigarettes in Japan, machine smoking tests were conducted using the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) protocol and the Health Canada Intense (HCI) protocol. Smoking topography and tobacco-related biomarkers were collected from 101 Japanese smokers to examine measures of exposure.

RESULTS:

The findings indicate considerable variability in the smoking behavior of Japanese smokers. On average, puffing behaviors observed among smokers were more similar to the parameters of the HCI protocol, and brands with greater ventilation that yielded lower machine values using the ISO protocol were smoked more intensely than brands with lower levels of ventilation. The smokers of "ultra-low/low" nicotine-yield cigarettes smoked 2.7-fold more intensely than those of "medium/high" nicotine-yield cigarette smokers to achieve the same level of salivary cotinine ($p = 0.024$). CO levels in expiratory breath samples were associated with puff volume and self-reported smoking intensity, but not with nominal values of nicotine-yield reported on cigarette packages.

CONCLUSIONS:

Japanese smokers engaged in "compensatory smoking" to achieve their desired nicotine intake, and levels of exposure were greater than those suggested by the nominal value of nicotine and tar yields reported on cigarette packages.

<http://www.springerlink.com/content/n826vqu8h2nt38m0/>

Long-term relationship between methylphenidate and tobacco consumption and nicotine craving in adults with ADHD in a prospective cohort study

[Eur Neuropsychopharmacol.](#) 2012 Jul 17. [Epub ahead of print]

[Bron TI](#), [Bijlenga D](#), [Kasander MV](#), [Spuijbroek AT](#), [Beekman AT](#), [Kooij JJ](#).

Abstract

Patients with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) have higher smoking rates, a younger age of smoking onset, and increased difficulty to stop smoking as compared to controls. Methylphenidate induced acute effects of increased smoking in laboratory studies, but long-term effects are unknown. We studied the acute and long-term relationship between methylphenidate use and tobacco consumption and nicotine craving among ADHD patients naïve for methylphenidate (N=325). Patients filled out the Smoking Questionnaire (SQ) at baseline, and after two-weeks and three-months of methylphenidate use. The SQ involved questions on demographics, tobacco consumption, nicotine craving, life events, psychiatric diagnoses and use of medication. At baseline, smoking prevalence of ADHD patients was twice as high (50.2%) as the national norm (25.6%; $p < .001$). Tobacco consumption increased with 1.3 cigarettes per day after three-months of methylphenidate use. When translated into pack years, tobacco consumption increased by about 23 packs per year. Reports of increased nicotine craving after methylphenidate, increased with 20.3% after two weeks and 29.2% after three months. Light smokers (1-12 cigarettes/day) were especially at risk for increased tobacco consumption ($p < .05$). Thus although methylphenidate is the drug of choice in medical treatment for ADHD, tobacco consumption and nicotine craving increased acutely and stabilized at increased levels after three-months of methylphenidate use. Although

the net effect of methylphenidate on smoking behavior and craving should be further investigated within a randomized, placebo-controlled design, the results suggest that active prevention of increased smoking is needed in patients prescribed methylphenidate.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0924977X12001563>

Perceived Effectiveness of Cessation Advertisements: The Importance of Audience Reactions and Practical Implications for Media Campaign Planning

Health Commun. 2012 Jul 19. [Epub ahead of print]

[Davis KC](#), [Nonnemaker J](#), [Duke J](#), [Farrelly MC](#).

Abstract

Cessation television ads are often evaluated with measures of perceived effectiveness (PE) that gauge smokers' reactions to the ads. Although measures of PE have been validated for other genres of public service announcements, no studies to our knowledge have demonstrated the predictive validity of PE for cessation TV ads specifically. We analyzed data from a longitudinal Web survey of smokers in the United States to assess whether measures of PE for cessation TV ads are causally antecedent to cessation-related outcomes. These data consisted of baseline and 2-week follow-up surveys of 3,411 smokers who were shown a number of cessation TV ads and were asked to provide their appraisals of PE for those messages. We found that baseline PE for the ads was associated with increased negative feelings about smoking, increased outcome expectations about the benefits of quitting, increased consideration of the benefits of quitting, increased desire to quit, and increased intentions to quit smoking at follow-up. Results suggest that measures of PE for cessation TV ads can be powerful predictors of likely ad success. Hence, our findings support the use of PE in quantitative ad pretesting as part of a standard regimen of formative research for cessation television campaigns.

<http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10410236.2012.696535>

Cigarette smoking as a risk factor for influenza-associated mortality: evidence from an elderly cohort

Influenza Other Respi Viruses. 2012 Jul 20. doi: 10.1111/j.1750-2659.2012.00411.x. [Epub ahead of print]

[Wong CM](#), [Yang L](#), [Chan KP](#), [Chan WM](#), [Song L](#), [Lai HK](#), [Thach TQ](#), [Ho LM](#), [Chan KH](#), [Lam TH](#), [Peiris JS](#).

Abstract

Background The effects of individual lifestyle factors on the mortality risk after influenza infection have not been explored. **Objectives** In this study, we assessed the modifying effects of cigarette smoking on mortality risks associated with influenza in a cohort of Hong Kong elders with a follow-up period of 1998-2009. **Methods** We used the Cox proportional hazards model with time-dependent covariates of weekly proportions of specimens positive for influenza (termed as influenza virus activity), to calculate the hazard ratio of mortality associated with a 10% increase in influenza virus activity for never, ex- and current smokers. Other individual lifestyle and socioeconomic factors as well as seasonal confounders were also added into the models. **Results** The overall hazard ratio associated with influenza was 1.028 (95% confidence interval, 1.006, 1.051) for all natural cause mortality and 1.035 (1.003, 1.068) for cardiovascular and respiratory mortality. We found that influenza-associated hazard ratio was greater in current and ex-smokers than in never smokers for mortality of all natural causes, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. **Conclusions** The findings suggest that smoking might increase influenza-associated mortality risks among elders.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1750-2659.2012.00411.x/abstract>

Epidemiology of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease: a literature review

International Journal of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease

Published Date July 2012 Volume 2012:7 Pages 457 - 494

Rycroft CE, Heyes A, Lanza L, Becker K

Abstract

The aim of this study is to quantify the burden of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) – incidence, prevalence, and mortality – and identify trends in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, The Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. A structured literature search was performed (January 2000 to September 2010) of PubMed and EMBASE, identifying English-language articles reporting COPD prevalence, incidence, or mortality. Of 2838 articles identified, 299 full-text articles were reviewed, and data were extracted from 133 publications. Prevalence data were extracted from 80 articles, incidence data from 15 articles, and mortality data from 58 articles. Prevalence ranged from 0.2%–37%, but varied widely across countries and populations, and by COPD diagnosis and classification methods. Prevalence and incidence were greatest in men and those aged 75 years and older. Mortality ranged from 3–111 deaths per 100,000 population. Mortality increased in the last 30–40 years; more recently, mortality decreased in men in several countries, while increasing or stabilizing in women. Although COPD mortality increased over time, rates declined more recently, likely indicating improvements in COPD management. In many countries, COPD mortality has increased in women but decreased in men. This may be explained by differences in smoking patterns and a greater vulnerability in women to the adverse effects of smoking.

http://www.dovepress.com/articles.php?article_id=10468

Note: Open Access. Full text PDF, as well as Video abstract presented by lead author Catherine Rycroft, freely available from link immediately above.

Tobacco use at Fort Riley: a study of the prevalence of tobacco use among active duty soldiers assigned to Fort Riley, Kansas

[Mil Med.](#) 2012 Jul;177(7):780-5.

[Ornelas S](#), [Benne PD](#), [Rosenkranz RR](#).

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Tobacco use among military personnel is of concern given its substantial burden on military health care and combat readiness.

OBJECTIVE:

This cross-sectional study investigated the prevalence of tobacco use and interest in tobacco cessation among active duty soldiers assigned to Fort Riley.

METHODS:

Participants completed tobacco use questionnaires as part of a Soldier readiness process. SPSS v. 16.0 was used to calculate mean percent and multinomial logistic regression analysis.

RESULTS:

A total of 6,181 active duty soldiers participated in the study (91.2% male, mean age 26.8 years (SD = 6.8 years; range 17–56 years). Forty-nine percent reported using some form of tobacco (smoked tobacco or smokeless tobacco). Smoked tobacco use was 39%. Smokeless tobacco use was over 19%. Thirty-six percent of tobacco users reported interest in cessation.

CONCLUSION:

Results suggest that active duty soldiers serving at Fort Riley Army Post represent a high-risk population for tobacco use and there may be unique factors contributing to greater tobacco use and low interest in tobacco cessation. The observed increased use in the time period around deployment provides important information for local health care providers that can be used to tailor current prevention and cessation programs.

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/amsus/zmm/2012/00000177/00000007/art00016>

Impact of genetic notification on smoking cessation: systematic review and pooled-analysis

PLoS One. 2012;7(7):e40230. Epub 2012 Jul 11.

[de Viron S](#), [Van der Heyden J](#), [Ambrosino E](#), [Arbyn M](#), [Brand A](#), [Van Oyen H](#).

Abstract

OBJECTIVES:

This study aimed to evaluate the impact of genetic notification of smoking-related disease risk on smoking cessation in the general population. Secondary objectives were to assess the impact of genetic notification on intention-to-quit smoking and on emotional outcomes as well as the understanding and the recall of this notification.

METHODS:

A systematic review of articles from inception to August 2011 without language restriction was realized using PubMed, Embase, Scopus, Web of Science, PsycINFO and Toxnet. Other publications were identified using hand search. The pooled-analysis included only randomized trials. Comparison groups were (i) high and low genetic risk versus control, and (ii) high versus low genetic risk. For the pooled-analysis random effect models were applied and sensitivity analyses were conducted.

RESULTS:

Eight papers from seven different studies met the inclusion criteria of the review. High genetic risk notification was associated with short-term increased depression and anxiety. Four randomized studies were included in the pooled-analysis, which revealed a significant impact of genetic notification on smoking cessation in comparison to controls (clinical risk notification or no intervention) in short term follow-up less than 6 months (RR= 1.55, 95% CI 1.09-2.21).

CONCLUSIONS:

In short term follow-up, genetic notification increased smoking cessation in comparison to control interventions. However, there is no evidence of long term effect (up to 12 month) on smoking cessation. Further research is needed to assess more in depth how genetic notification of smoking-related disease could contribute to smoking cessation.

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0040230>

Also:

Why do males in Scotland die younger than those in England? Evidence from three prospective cohort studies

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0038860>

Smoking during Pregnancy Is Associated with a Decreased Incidence of Obstetric Anal Sphincter Injuries in Nulliparous Women

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0041014>

Note: Open Access. Full text PDF freely available from link immediately above.

Health care providers' advice to quit smoking, national health interview survey, 2000, 2005, and 2010

Prev Chronic Dis. 2012 Jul;9:E130. Epub 2012 Jul 19.

[Kruger J](#), [Shaw L](#), [Kahende J](#), [Frank E](#).

Abstract

Although the prevalence of cigarette smoking has declined in the United States, little documentation exists to ascertain which health care providers (HCPs) promote smoking cessation. We used data from the 2000, 2005, and 2010 Cancer Control Supplement of the National Health Interview Survey to examine changes in the number of adults who received smoking cessation advice from their HCP. The percentage of smokers who received cessation advice was 53.3% in 2000, 58.9% in 2005, and 50.7% in 2010. To affect noticeably declining rates, HCPs should increase their efforts to advise smokers to quit.

http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2012/11_0340.htm

http://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2012/pdf/11_0340.pdf

Note: Open Access. Full text PDF freely available from link immediately above.

Online Intervention Engagement Predicts Smoking Cessation

[Prev Med.](#) 2012 Jul 16. [Epub ahead of print]

[Schwarzer R](#), [Satow L](#).

Abstract

OBJECTIVE:

Instead of focusing on individual differences as predictors of quitting ("Who they are"), this study focuses on actions ("What they do"). The purpose is to predict smoking abstinence in internet users who may become involved in social activities within the virtual community.

METHODS:

From March, 2009, to July, 2011, users of a web-based smoking cessation program in Germany made data available for a post-hoc evaluation study (n=13,174), including abstinence rates and online activities such as a) posting on a bulletin board after a smoke-free day, b) offering a donation, and c) posting messages throughout their course.

RESULTS:

Survival analyses for 70 days of self-reported non-smoking documented higher success rates for those who made use of one or more of the virtual community activities. Moreover, the effect of making an initial bulletin board entry on 10-week abstinence was mediated by offering a donation and posting messages throughout the course ($R^2=0.125$). The indirect effect via donation was 0.10 (95%CI 0.06-0.14), and the indirect effect via message posting was 0.31 (95%CI 0.25-0.38).

CONCLUSIONS:

Virtual community activities predict smoking cessation. Shifting the focus from personality characteristics toward behavioral process variables such as intervention engagement might add more substance to smoking cessation studies.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0091743512003167>

Awareness, perceptions and use of snus among young adults from the upper Midwest region of the USA

Tob Control Published Online First: 20 July 2012

Kelvin Choi, Jean Forster

Abstract

Background Since its introduction in 2006, snus has been aggressively marketed by tobacco companies. However, little is known about the awareness, perceptions and use of snus among young adults after Camel and Marlboro snus were sold nationwide in 2010.

Methods Data were collected from 2607 young adults (ages 20–28) who participated in the Minnesota Adolescent Community Cohort Study in 2010–2011. Data include awareness of snus, ever and past 30-day use, perceived potential of snus as a quit aid, and perceived harmfulness and addictiveness of snus relative to cigarettes. The authors assessed the associations between these outcome variables and socio-demographic characteristics.

Results Overall, 64.8% of participants were aware of snus, 14.5% ever used snus and 3.2% used snus in the past 30 days. Men and participants who smoked >100 cigarettes in their lifetime were associated with these three outcomes ($p<0.05$). Among those who were aware of snus, 16.3% agreed snus can help people quit smoking, 17.3% agreed snus is less harmful than cigarettes and 11.3% agreed snus is less addictive than cigarettes. These perceptions were associated with ever use and the past 30-day use of snus ($p<0.05$).

Conclusions In this regional sample of US young adults, the majority of young adults were aware of snus, and over one in 10 had used snus. More young adults in the sample than the overall US adult population believed that snus is less harmful than cigarettes. Perceptions of snus are associated with snus use. Strategic health communication interventions targeting young adults to confront the positive perceptions associated with snus may be needed to curb the interest in snus.

<http://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com/content/early/2012/07/19/tobaccocontrol-2011-050383.abstract>

Cigarette butt littering in city streets: a new methodology for studying and results

Tob Control Published Online First: 20 July 2012

Vimal Patel, George W Thomson, Nick Wilson

Abstract

Objectives The objectives of the present work were to (a) develop a relatively simple single-observer method for data collection on cigarette butt discarding; and (b) quantify cigarette butt discarding behaviour in city streets.

Methods A method was developed, piloted and refined (with interobserver assessment). Cigarette butt discarding was systematically observed by a single data collector while walking a continuous circuit of busy downtown streets in a capital city (Wellington, New Zealand).

Results The final method appeared feasible in this setting and seemed efficient (at 5.5 discarding events observed per hour). A clear majority (76.7%; 95% CI 70.8 to 82.0%) of the 219 smokers observed littered their cigarette butts. Butt littering was more common for those who did not extinguish their cigarette (94.4% vs 4.5%, $p=0.003$). Butt littering was more common in the evening versus lunchtime periods of observation (85.8% vs 68.1%, $p=0.002$, logistic regression analysis). Overall, most smokers (73.5%) did not extinguish their butts and some placed lit butts in bins (constituting a risk of bin fires). The context for this littering was a high density of rubbish bins on this circuit with a mean of 3.5 bins being in view and with a bin every 24 m on average.

Conclusions Butt littering behaviour appears to be the norm among smokers in this urban setting, even though rubbish bins were ubiquitous. One solution is stronger enforcement of littering laws. Nevertheless, in a society with a national smokefree goal (by year 2025 for New Zealand), it would probably be more logical and cost effective to move to smokefree policies for major city streets, which are used in a number of jurisdictions internationally.

<http://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com/content/early/2012/07/19/tobaccocontrol-2012-050529.abstract>

The analysis of mainstream smoke emissions of Canadian 'super slim' cigarettes

Tob Control Published Online First: 20 July 2012

May Siu, Nemanja Mladjenovic, Evelyn Soo

Abstract

Background Super slim cigarettes are a relatively new type of cigarette in Canada, and an analysis of select toxicants in the mainstream smoke emissions of the super slim cigarette was conducted.

Method The yields of selected toxicants in the mainstream smoke emissions of six brands of super slim cigarettes were compared with the Canadian Benchmark, which represents the cigarette designs most commonly found in Canada. A super slim cigarette was also compared with a 'Reference Cigarette' to study the impact of the significantly reduced

circumference on mainstream smoke emissions.

Results Compared with the Canadian Benchmark, the yields of carbon monoxide, the carbonyls, volatiles and the aromatic amines were significantly lower for the super slim cigarette, but the yields of formaldehyde and ammonia were significantly higher. For brands containing a mixed tobacco blend, the yields of tobacco-specific nitrosamines were increased significantly. The reduced circumference of the super slim cigarette resulted in a lower tobacco weight, which together with filter ventilation resulted in lower yields of many toxicants. However, the reduced circumference increased significantly the yields of formaldehyde and phenols in mainstream smoke emissions.

Conclusions The notably slimmer design of the super slim cigarette resulted in lower yields of some toxicants in the mainstream smoke emissions. However, there were also significant increases in some toxicant levels in the mainstream smoke emissions including formaldehyde, ammonia and the phenols. There are no changes in emission levels that have been shown to reduce exposure or risk in a way that is meaningful, and therefore, the super slim cigarette should not be considered a 'less harmful' cigarette.

<http://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com/content/early/2012/07/19/tobaccocontrol-2012-050450.abstract>

The genetics of addiction-a translational perspective

[Transl Psychiatry](#). 2012 Jul 17;2:e140. doi: 10.1038/tp.2012.54.

[Agrawal A](#), [Verweij KJ](#), [Gillespie NA](#), [Heath AC](#), [Lessov-Schlaggar CN](#), [Martin NG](#), [Nelson EC](#), [Slutske WS](#), [Whitfield JB](#), [Lynskey MT](#).

Abstract

Addictions are serious and common psychiatric disorders, and are among the leading contributors to preventable death. This selective review outlines and highlights the need for a multi-method translational approach to genetic studies of these important conditions, including both licit (alcohol, nicotine) and illicit (cannabis, cocaine, opiates) drug addictions and the behavioral addiction of disordered gambling. First, we review existing knowledge from twin studies that indicates both the substantial heritability of substance-specific addictions and the genetic overlap across addiction to different substances. Next, we discuss the limited number of candidate genes which have shown consistent replication, and the implications of emerging genomewide association findings for the genetic architecture of addictions. Finally, we review the utility of extensions to existing methods such as novel phenotyping, including the use of endophenotypes, biomarkers and neuroimaging outcomes; emerging methods for identifying alternative sources of genetic variation and accompanying statistical methodologies to interpret them; the role of gene-environment interplay; and importantly, the potential role of genetic variation in suggesting new alternatives for treatment of addictions.

<http://www.nature.com/tp/journal/v2/n7/abs/tp201254a.html>

<http://www.nature.com/tp/journal/v2/n7/pdf/tp201254a.pdf>

Note: Open Access. Full text PDF freely available from link immediately above.

Role of smoking in periodontal disease among diabetic patients

[West Indian Med J](#). 2012 Jan;61(1):98-101.

[Obradović R](#), [Kesić LJ](#), [Gasić J](#), [Petrović M](#), [Zivković N](#).

Abstract

OBJECTIVE:

The objective of the study was to analyse the effect of smoking on periodontal disease in diabetic patients.

METHODS:

One hundred and fifty patients participated in the study Fifty patients with Type 1 diabetes mellitus (DM) and periodontal disease were the first group; 50 patients with Type 2 DM and periodontal disease were the second group, and 50 non-diabetic patients with periodontal disease were the third group. After anamnesis was taken, the variable in the analysis was smoker/non-smoker The status of the oral hygiene and periodontal condition was recorded using Plaque index,

Supragingival calculus index, Subgingival calculus index, Gingival index, Periodontal Disease Index and Community Periodontal Index of Treatment Needs, by the periodontologist.

RESULTS:

Except Gingival index, mean values of all investigated indices were higher in smokers in all investigated groups.

CONCLUSION:

Periodontal disease is more advanced in diabetic smokers compared to diabetic non-smokers. It can be concluded that smoking negatively affects the course of diabetic periodontal disease and increases the risk of attachment loss. Diabetic smokers are at high risk for poor periodontal prognosis, and they should be included in careful periodontal treatment.

http://caribbean.scielo.org/scielo.php?script=sci_abstract&pid=S0043-31442012000100018&lng=en&nrm=iso&tlng=en
<http://caribbean.scielo.org/pdf/wimj/v61n1/18.pdf>

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