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Subject: STAN Bulletin: 16th Edition: 19-July-2012

Smoking & Tobacco Abstracts & News

STAN Bulletin 16th Edition 19-July-2012

Editor's note: The <u>BMJ</u> and Australian <u>6 Minutes</u> news items on plain packaging are subscriber-only but may be requested in the same fashion as journal study PDFs. As noted before, 'In the News' studies highlighted in square brackets have been previously featured in this bulletin or in MJU and remain available upon request.

Stan Shatenstein

In the News:

- Australia: ALEC: Big Pharma's credibility goes up in smoke as NRT makers fight plain packaging.
- Australia: <u>Attorney-General Roxon: When trade marks & health collide over plain cigarette packaging</u>
- Australia/US: Proctor: A perfect addicting engine: the case for ending cigarette sales: Audio
- BMJ: UK/Australia: Health activists note massive rise in campaigns against plain packets for cigarettes
- Canada: BC: Langley: Another win for non-smokers as strata complex adopts new ban bylaw
- Canada: BC: Maple Ridge: Family urges city hall to ban smoking outside homes; Negative reaction
- Canada: Smoking affects liver transplant health, increases risk of viral hepatitis reinfection [Liver Transpl Bhat]
- China: Male smokers warned of impotency threat, previously under-appreciated [AJE: He (2007)]
- China: WHO gives health minister award for battling smoking; Tobacco consumption still rises
- Dominican Republic/Australia: <u>Third WTO complaint filed over plain packaging</u>, <u>backed by tobacco firms</u>
- India: Tobacco Act: Nine years on, legislation's implementation lost in smoke
- India: Gutka: Clamping down on killer chewing tobacco; Shankapura: Tobacco-Free Village
- Indonesia: <u>Djarum: UEFA hypocrisy as football broadcast on cigarette brand-sponsored channel</u>
- Indonesia: Bali: Government strictly enforces smoke-free zones, issues fines, arrests civil servants
- Iran: Morality police target cafe culture for 'un-Islamic' behaviour, arrest women for hookah smoking
- NZ: PM: Tobacco giant steps up campaign against anti-smoking measures; New website launched
- NZ: UNDP/ITC: Former Prime Minister Clark admits 'serious oversight' in business award to tobacco company
- Philippines/UK: BAT still buying 2 million kilograms of local tobacco annually, years after leaving the country
- UK: The Guardian: Opinion: Tobacco packets attract children: Now argue against making them plain
- US: Huffington Post: Opinion: Smoking Dangers & Stigma Help Snuff Lung Cancer's Lethal Toll, But Not Enough.
- US: Louisiana: Judge dismisses second-hand smoke lawsuit against Caesars Entertainment
- US: Tennessee: Virginia Slims generation of women sees rise in lung cancer deaths [JCO: Jemal]
- US: Hookah Smoking Increasingly Common Among First-Year College Women [Psych Addict Behav: Fielder]

Noteworthy:

"One of the most powerful times to convince a smoker to quit is before a surgical procedure or after diagnosis of a smoking-related illness. The time has arrived for surgeons to assume the leadership role and catalyze constructive change to minimize the impact of tobacco in the perioperative setting in America. A partnership between surgeons and policy makers could dramatically improve health outcomes." [Khullar D, Maa J. The Impact of Smoking on Surgical Outcomes: A Collective Review, <u>J Am Coll Surg</u>]

"E-cigarettes are increasing in popularity and are marketed as safer cigarettes for both the user and the public because they deliver nicotine without the harmful additional components of tobacco cigarettes. Evaluation of the literature for ecigarettes has shown promise in helping patients quit tobacco, but well-designed safety and efficacy studies are lacking including evaluation of these products in comparison to currently available smoking cessation medication aids. The long-term effects of e-cigarettes are unknown and very few patients have been objectively studied. Well-designed studies will help to clarify whether e-cigarettes have a possible role in smoking cessation, but until this occurs, they cannot be

recommended." [Odum LE, O'Dell KA, Schepers JS. Electronic Cigarettes: Do They Have a Role in Smoking Cessation?, *J Pharm Pract*]

In this Edition:

- Addict Behav Brown/TBM Michie: UK: StopAdvisor: Development & Pilot study: Internet cessation intervention
- AJE de Jong: NL: ALS: Smoking, Alcohol Consumption & Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Risk
- Cancer Treat Rev Fang: Genetic network & analysis & smoking & lung cancer biomarker identification
- Chin Med J Gao: Smoking increases retinol-binding protein-4 levels in normal glucose tolerance
- Ethn Health Widome: US: Midwest: Neighborhood demographics & PoS tobacco advertising & marketing
- Eur J Cancer Prev Muttarak: Italy: Why smokers start: 61% cite influence of friends
- Glycobiol Vasseur: Smoking & Lung Cancer-induced Changes in N-Glycosylation of Blood Serum Proteins
- HER Bonevski: Australia: Novel setting for addressing tobacco-related disparities: SCSO policies, practices & attitudes
- J Am Coll Surg Khullar: Impact of Smoking on Surgical Outcomes: Collective Review
- J Asthma de la Riva-Velasco: FeNO & Low-Level ETS Exposure in Asthmatic Children Inhaled Corticosteroids
- J Clin Psych Andrade: India: Schizophrenia & smoking: Guidance on clinical issues
- J Law Med Ethics Liberman: FCTC: Minefields in combating counterfeit medicines & illicit tobacco products trade
- J Pharm Pract Odum: US: Electronic Cigarettes: Do They Have a Role in Smoking Cessation?
- J Psychosom Res Corley: UK: Scotland: Smoking, childhood IQ, & cognitive function in old age
- J Tox Env Health A Madureira: Portugal: Positive impact of smoking law on restaurant worker respiratory health
- Life Sci Lee: nAChRs: Nicotine & Pathological Angiogenesis
- Mat Child Health J Bombard: US: Telephone Cessation Quitline Use Among Pregnant & Non-pregnant Women
- Med Clin North Am Pirozzi: Smoking cessation & environmental hygiene
- Nat Genet Dong: China: Multiple new lung cancer susceptibility loci & smoking interactions
- Neuroimage Wylie: Nicotine Increases Brain Functional Network Efficiency
- Nurs Res Pract Small: Canada: Latent Danger: Parents Communicating with Children about Smoking
- PLoS One Heikkilä: EU: Job Strain & Tobacco Smoking: Meta-Analysis of 166.130 Adults in 15 Studies
- PLoS One Sloane: COPD: Smoking & pharmacological approach to CFTR dysfunction
- Prim Care Resp J Sundh: Sweden: COPD: DOSE: Dyspnoea, Obstruction, Smoking, Exacerbation & mortality prediction
- Psych Addict Behav Levine: Dietary Intake After Cessation Among Weight-Concerned Women Smokers
- Pub Health Doku: Ghana: Tobacco use & exposure to promotion & adolescent restraining factors

Abstracts:

A pilot study of StopAdvisor: A theory-based interactive internet-based smoking cessation intervention aimed across the social spectrum

Addict Behav. 2012 Jun 9. [Epub ahead of print]

Brown J, Michie S, Geraghty AW, Miller S, Yardley L, Gardner B, Shahab L, Stapleton JA, West R.

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

This article reports a pilot study of a new smoking cessation website ('StopAdvisor'), which has been developed on the basis of PRIME theory, evidence, web-design expertise and user-testing. The aims were to i) evaluate whether cessation, website usage and satisfaction were sufficiently high to warrant a randomised controlled trial (RCT) and ii) assess whether outcomes were affected by socio-economic status.

METHODS:

This was an uncontrolled pilot study. Two hundred and four adult daily smokers willing to make a serious quit attempt were included. All participants received support from 'StopAdvisor', which recommends a structured quit plan and a variety of evidence-based behaviour change techniques for smoking cessation. A series of tunnelled sessions and a variety of interactive menus provide tailored support for up to a month before quitting through until one-month post-quit

(http://www.lifeguideonline.org/player/play/stopadvisordemonstration). The primary outcome was self-report of at least 1month of continuous abstinence collected at 2months post-enrolment and verified by saliva cotinine or anabasine. Usage was indexed by log-ins and page views. Satisfaction was assessed by dichotomous ratings of helpfulness, personal relevance, likelihood of recommendation and future use, which were collected using an online questionnaire at 2months post-enrolment. Outcomes according to socio-economic status were assessed.

RESULTS:

At 8weeks post-enrolment, 19.6% (40/204) of participants were abstinent according to the primary outcome criteria (95% C.I.=14.1% to 25.1%). Participants viewed a mean of 133.5 pages (median=71.5) during 6.4 log-ins (median=3). A majority of respondents rated the website positively on each of the four satisfaction `ratings (range=66.7% to 75.3%). There was no evidence of an effect of socio-economic status on abstinence (OR=1.01, C.I.=0.50-2.07), usage (page-views, t(202)=0.11, p=.91; log-ins, t(202)=0.21, p=.83), or satisfaction (helpfulness, OR=1.09, C.I.=0.41-2.88; personal relevance, OR=0.55, C.I.=0.20-1.56; recommendation, OR=0.98, C.I.=0.34-2.81; use in future, OR=1.45, C.I.=0.49-4.27).

CONCLUSIONS:

The systematic application of theory, evidence, web-design expertise, and user-testing has resulted in a website that shows sufficiently promising efficacy and usability to warrant evaluation in a RCT. The website appears to be similarly effective and acceptable to users across the social spectrum.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0306460312002183

Related TBM report:

Development of StopAdvisor: A theory-based interactive internet-based smoking cessation intervention http://www.springerlink.com/content/r7504pv317125258/ http://www.springerlink.com/content/r7504pv317125258/fulltext.pdf

Note: Open Access. Full text PDF of *TBM* report, but not *Addict Behav* study, freely available from link immediately above.

Smoking, Alcohol Consumption, and the Risk of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis: A Population-based Study

Am J Epidemiol. 2012 Jul 11. [Epub ahead of print]

de Jong SW, Huisman MH, Sutedja NA, van der Kooi AJ, de Visser M, Schelhaas HJ, Fischer K, Veldink JH, van den Berg LH.

Abstract

Smoking has been posited as a possible risk factor for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), but large population-based studies of patients with incident disease are still needed. The authors performed a population-based case-control study in the Netherlands between 2006 and 2009, including 494 patients with incident ALS and 1,599 controls. To prove the relevance of population-based incidence cohorts in case-control studies, the authors compared results with those from cohorts including patients with prevalent ALS and referral patients. Subjects were sent a questionnaire. Multivariate analyses showed an increased risk of ALS among current smokers (odds ratio = 1.38, 95% confidence interval (CI): 1.02, 1.88) in the incident patient group only. Cox regression models showed that current smoking was also independently associated with shorter survival (hazard ratio = 1.51, 95% CI: 1.07, 2.15), explaining the lack of association in the prevalent and referral patient groups. Current alcohol consumption was associated with a reduced risk of ALS (incident patient group: odds ratio = 0.52, 95% CI: 0.40, 0.75). These findings indicate that current smoking is associated with an increased risk of ALS, as well as a worse prognosis, and alcohol consumption is associated with a reduced risk of ALS, further corroborating the role of lifestyle factors in the pathogenesis of ALS. The importance of population-based incident patient cohorts in identifying risk factors is highlighted by this study.

http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/07/11/aje.kws015.abstract

Also:

Maternal and Paternal Smoking During Pregnancy and Risk of ADHD Symptoms in Offspring: Testing for Intrauterine Effects

http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/07/11/aje.kwr510.abstract

http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/07/11/aje.kwr510.full.pdf+html

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

Genetic network and gene set enrichment analysis to identify biomarkers related to cigarette smoking and lung cancer

Cancer Treat Rev. 2012 Jul 10. [Epub ahead of print]

Fang X, Netzer M, Baumgartner C, Bai C, Wang X.

Abstract

OBJECTIVES:

Cigarette smoking is the most demonstrated risk factor for the development of lung cancer, while the related genetic mechanisms are still unclear.

METHODS:

The preprocessed microarray expression dataset was downloaded from Gene Expression Omnibus database. Samples were classified according to the disease state, stage and smoking state. A new computational strategy was applied for the identification and biological interpretation of new candidate genes in lung cancer and smoking by coupling a network-based approach with gene set enrichment analysis.

MEASUREMENTS:

Network analysis was performed by pair-wise comparison according to the disease states (tumor or normal), smoking states (current smokers or nonsmokers or former smokers), or the disease stage (stages I-IV). The most activated metabolic pathways were identified by gene set enrichment analysis.

RESULTS:

Panels of top ranked gene candidates in smoking or cancer development were identified, including genes involved in cell proliferation and drug metabolism like cytochrome P450 and WW domain containing transcription regulator 1. Semaphorin 5A and protein phosphatase 1F are the common genes represented as major hubs in both the smoking and cancer related network. Six pathways, e.g. cell cycle, DNA replication, RNA transport, protein processing in endoplasmic reticulum, vascular smooth muscle contraction and endocytosis were commonly involved in smoking and lung cancer when comparing the top ten selected pathways.

CONCLUSION:

New approach of bioinformatics for biomarker identification and validation can probe into deep genetic relationships between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. Our studies indicate that disease-specific network biomarkers, interaction between genes/proteins, or cross-talking of pathways provide more specific values for the development of precision therapies for lung.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305737212001351

Cigarette smoking increases levels of retinol-binding protein-4 in healthy men with normal glucose tolerance

Chin Med J (Engl). 2012 May;125(10):1686-9.

Gao S, Wang YH, Li M.

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Smoking is related with insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes mellitus. Retinol-binding protein-4 is a new adipocytokine associated with insulin resistance. We investigated the serum levels of a series of adipocytokines including retinol-binding protein-4 in smokers and non-smokers to explore the possible roles of adipocytokines on smoking induced insulin resistance.

METHODS:

A total of 136 healthy male subjects (92 smokers and 44 non-smokers) with normal glucose tolerance were enrolled in the study. Adipocytokines including retinol-binding protein-4, visfatin, leptin, resistin, adiponectin were measured for the comparison between the two groups. Serum lipid profile, glucose, true insulin and proinsulin levels were measured as well in both groups. Food intake spectrum was also investigated.

RESULTS:

Both groups had similar profile of food consumption; visfatin, leptin, resistin and adiponectin, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, alanine aminotransferase, aspartate aminotransferase, as well as blood pressure and body mass index, were similar in both groups. Triglycerides, retinol-binding protein-4 and homeostatic model assessment index for insulin resistance were higher in smoker group ((2.58 ± 2.53) vs. (1.60 ± 0.94) mmol/L, (26.05 ± 8.50) vs. (21.83 ± 8.40) µg/ml, and 2.25 ± 2.08 vs. 1.58 ± 1.15 , respectively).

CONCLUSION:

Smoking may have effect on insulin sensitivity, which is correlated with retinol-binding protein-4.

http://www.cmj.org/Periodical/AbstractList.asp?titleid=LW2012517351159109882 http://www.cmj.org/Periodical/PDF/201251734908660.pdf

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

The relationship of neighborhood demographic characteristics to point-of-sale tobacco advertising and marketing

Ethn Health. 2012 Jul 12. [Epub ahead of print]

Widome R, Brock B, Noble P, Forster JL.

Abstract

Objectives. Exposure to tobacco marketing has been associated with an increased likelihood that youth start smoking and may interfere with tobacco cessation. We aimed to describe the prevalence, placement, and features of tobacco advertising at the point of sale by race, ethnicity, and other neighborhood demographics, as well as by store type. Design. A cross-sectional assessment of the advertising environment in establishments that held tobacco licenses in our study region (a metropolitan area in the Midwest USA) was conducted in 2007. Stores were geocoded and linked with block group demographic data taken from the Year 2000 US census. We calculated associations between our hypothesized predictors, race, ethnicity, and other neighborhood demographics, and two types of outcomes (1) amount and (2) characteristics of the advertising. Results. Tobacco advertising at the point of sale was most common in gas stations/convenience stores, liquor stores, and tobacco stores. A 10% difference in a block group's African-American/Black population was associated with 9% (95% confidence interval [CI] = 3%, 16%) more ads as well as a greater likelihood that ads would be close to the ground (prevalence ratio [PR] = 1.15 [95% CI = 1.04, 1.28]). Block groups with greater African-American/Black, Asian, people on public assistance or below 150% of the poverty threshold, or people under the age of 18 years had more ads for menthol brands. Block groups with greater proportions of Whites were more likely to have ads that used health words, such as 'light' or 'natural' (PR for 10% difference in White population = 1.41 [95% CI = 1.17-1.70]). Chain stores were more likely to have greater amounts of advertising, ads close to the ground, ads for price deals, or ads that use words that imply health. Conclusion. Tobacco advertising targets communities with various racial and ethnic profiles in different ways. Now that US Food and Drug Administration has the authority to

regulate the marketing and sale of tobacco products, there is new opportunity to reduce the harmful impact of tobacco advertising.

http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13557858.2012.701273

Why do smokers start?

Eur J Cancer Prev. 2012 Jul 12. [Epub ahead of print]

Muttarak R, Gallus S, Franchi M, Faggiano F, Pacifici R, Colombo P, La Vecchia C.

Abstract

Most studies investigating the reasons for smoking initiation are based on adolescents or young individuals. We considered the issue in a large dataset on the general Italian population. Six population-based surveys on smoking were conducted annually from 2005 to 2010 on representative samples of Italian individuals aged 15 years or over, involving more than 3000 individuals each year. A specific question on the main reason to start smoking was asked to 7469 ever smokers. Overall, 59.9% of ever smokers started smoking before 18 years of age and 33.6% started smoking before 16 years of age. Among ever smokers, 61.1% reported having started smoking because of the influence of friends, 15.6% for enjoyment and satisfaction, 9.0% to feel mature and independent, 6.6% because of the influence of partner/family, 2.5% because of stress, 1.9% to feel more secure and 1.8% for curiosity. The finding that the majority of Italian men and women - particularly those who started smoking at a young age - started smoking because of the influence of friends suggests that antismoking campaigns should consider social influence, resistance and the dimension of self-esteem. An improvement in the legislation prohibiting the purchase of tobacco products by minors aged less than 18 years and a smoking ban in school courtyards are urgently required in Italy.

http://journals.lww.com/euricancerprev/pages/articleviewer.aspx?vear=9000&issue=00000&article=99726&type=abstract

Smoking and Lung Cancer-induced Changes in N-Glycosylation of Blood Serum Proteins

Glycobiology. 2012 Jul 9. [Epub ahead of print]

Vasseur JA, Goetz JA, Alley WR Jr, Novotny MV.

Abstract

Glycosylation is a key post-translational protein modification which appears important in malignant transformation and tumor metastasis. Abnormal glycosylation of different proteins can often be measured in blood serum. In this study, we extend our serum-based structural investigations to samples provided by patients diagnosed with lung cancer, paying particular attention to the effects of smoking on the serum glycomic traces. Following a battery of glycomic tests, we find that several fucosylated tetra-antennary structures with varying degrees of sialylation are increased in their abundances in control samples provided by the former smokers, with further elevations in the lung cancer patients who were former smokers. Further detailed investigations demonstrated that the level of outer-arm fucosylation was elevated in the control samples of the former smokers and again in the lung cancer samples provided by the former smokers. This trend was particularly noticeable for the tri- and tetra-antennary structures. Different ratios of sialylation linkages were also observed that could be correlated with the different states-of-health and smoking status. Decreases in the abundance levels of isomers with two and three α 2,3-linked sialic acids and an increased abundance of an isomer with two α 2,6-linked sialic acids were noted for a fucosylated tri-sialylated tri-antennary glycan. These results demonstrate the long-term effects of smoking on glycomic profiles and that this factor needs to be considered in these and other serum-based analyses.

http://glycob.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/07/09/glycob.cws108.abstract

Novel setting for addressing tobacco-related disparities: a survey of community welfare organization smoking policies, practices and attitudes

Health Educ Res. 2012 Jul 13. [Epub ahead of print]

Bonevski B, O'Brien J, Frost S, Yiow L, Oakes W, Barker D.

Abstract

Research in the United States and Australia acknowledges the potential of non-government social and community service organizations (SCSOs) for reaching socially disadvantaged smokers. This study aimed to describe SCSO smoking policies and practices, and attitudes of senior staff towards smoking and cessation. It also investigated factors associated with positive tobacco control attitudes. In 2009, a cross-sectional telephone survey was undertaken of senior staff in Australian SCSOs, 149 respondents representing 93 organizations completed the survey (response rate = 65%; 93/142). Most service clients (60%) remained in programs for 6 months plus, and 77% attended at least weekly. Although 93% of respondents indicated they had an organizational smoking policy, it often did not include the provision of smoking cessation support. Most respondents indicated that client smoking status was not recorded on case notes (78%). Attitudes were mostly positive towards tobacco control in SCSOs, with a mean (standard deviation) score of 8.3 (2.9) of a possible 13. The practice of assessing clients' interest in quitting was the only statistically significant factor associated with high tobacco control attitude scores. The results suggest that SCSOs are appropriate settings for reaching socially disadvantaged smokers with cessation support. Although generally receptive to tobacco control, organizations require further support to integrate smoking cessation support into usual care. In particular, education, training and support for staff to enable them to help their clients quit smoking is important.

http://her.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/07/13/her.cvs077.abstract

The Impact of Smoking on Surgical Outcomes: A Collective Review

J Am Coll Surg. 2012 Jul 11. [Epub ahead of print]

Khullar D, Maa J.

Summary

Smoking substantially increases a patient's risk of surgical complications. Despite this, almost half of all surgeons do not routinely counsel their patients to stop smoking before an operation. Studies show that although up to 75% of smokers who undergo surgery would like to quit, only about 5% will stop smoking permanently around the time of elective surgery. The intent of this article is to raise surgeon awareness of the deleterious impact of smoking on surgical outcomes and emphasize the unique opportunity in the teachable moment of surgery to enable patients to succeed in their efforts to quit smoking.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1072751512004127

Relationship between Exhaled Nitric Oxide and Exposure to Low-Level Environmental Tobacco Smoke in Children with Asthma on Inhaled Corticosteroids

J Asthma. 2012 Jul 17. [Epub ahead of print]

de la Riva-Velasco E, Krishnan S, Dozor AJ.

Abstract

Objectives. The relationship between exhaled nitric oxide (FeNO) and asthma severity or control is inconsistent. Active smoking lowers FeNO, but the relationship between passive smoking and FeNO is less clear. Children may be exposed to low-level environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) or thirdhand smoke, even if parents avoid smoking in the presence of their children. Our hypothesis was that FeNO is lower in children with asthma exposed to low-level ETS when compared with those who are not exposed. Methods. Children with stable asthma, 8-18 years of age, on low- or medium-dose inhaled corticosteroids (ICS) were enrolled. Spirometry, Asthma Control Questionnaire (ACQ), FeNO, exhaled breath condensate pH (EBC pH), and EBC ammonia were compared between children with and without ETS exposure as

determined by urinary cotinine. Results. Thirty-three subjects were enrolled, of which 10 (30%) had urinary cotinine levels ≥1 ng/ml. There were no significant differences between the two groups in age, sex, BMI percentile, atopy status, FEV(1), EBC pH, or EBC ammonia. Median ACQ was 0.29 (IQR: 0.22-0.57) for those with cotinine levels <1 ng/ml and 0.64 (IQR: 0.57-1.1) for those with cotinine levels of ≥1 ng/ml, p = .02. Median FeNO (ppb) was 23.9 (IQR: 15.2-34.5) for unexposed subjects and 9.6 (IQR: 5.1-15.8) for exposed subjects, p = .008. Conclusions: Children with asthma on low to medium doses of ICS and recent low-level ETS exposure have lower FeNO levels when compared with non-ETS-exposed subjects. Exposure to low-level ETS or thirdhand smoke may be an important variable to consider when interpreting FeNO as a biomarker for airway inflammation.

http://informahealthcare.com/doi/abs/10.3109/02770903.2012.701363

Schizophrenia and smoking

J Clin Psychiatry. 2012 Jun;73(6):e725-7.

Andrade C.

Abstract

Smoking is associated with the induction of the CYP 1A2 enzyme, and hence with diminished levels of drugs metabolized by this enzyme. This article presents a hypothetical patient, diagnosed with schizophrenia, who smokes about 10 cigarettes a day. The progress of the patient is examined across several follow up meetings, each of which presents a fresh clinical problem related to smoking and its interaction with the medication. Clinical guidance for each problem is presented along with a brief discussion on the subject. The article concludes with a discussion of other pharmacokinetic considerations related to smoking and its treatment in patients with schizophrenia.

http://www.psychiatrist.com/abstracts/abstracts.asp?abstract=201206/v73n0601.htm

Combating counterfeit medicines and illicit trade in tobacco products: minefields in global health governance

<u>J Law Med Ethics.</u> 2012 Jun;40(2):326-47. doi: 10.1111/j.1748-720X.2012.00667.x.

Liberman J.

Abstract

This article examines two spheres of global governance in which the World Health Organization (WHO) has sought to exercise international leadership - combating "counterfeit" medicines and illicit trade in tobacco products. Medicines and tobacco products lie at polar opposite ends of the health spectrum, and are regulated for vastly different reasons and through different tools and approaches. Nevertheless, attempts to govern counterfeit trade in each of these products raise a host of somewhat similar challenges, involving normative and operational conflicts that cut across the crowded intersection of health protection and promotion, intellectual property protection, and activity to combat transnational organized crime. As negotiations of an illicit trade protocol to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control enter their final stages, lessons learned from counterfeit medicines governance need to be applied to ensure that the most appropriate governance arrangements are adopted.

http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1748-720X.2012.00667.x/abstract

Electronic Cigarettes: Do They Have a Role in Smoking Cessation?

J Pharm Pract. 2012 Jul 13. [Epub ahead of print]

Odum LE, O'Dell KA, Schepers JS.

Abstract

Electronic cigarettes have gained popularity among patients as a smoking cessation aid despite not being approved or supported for this purpose by the United States Food and Drug Administration due to concerns with poor manufacturing practices and the presence of known carcinogens in the limited products that they tested. A few studies have evaluated the effects of electronic cigarettes on plasma nicotine levels and heart rate but found negligible effects. Safety data are mainly limited to surveys in which patients report only minor side effects, such as mouth and throat irritation, headache, vertigo, and nausea. The efficacy of electronic cigarettes has been evaluated in studies in which patients report great success with being able to cut back or stop tobacco cigarette consumption. However, many of these studies introduce bias due to recruiting on e-cigarette Web sites and having tobacco cigarette use self-reported by the participant rather than objectively tested. A few studies have formally evaluated nicotine craving when using electronic cigarettes with mixed results. Although patients support the use of electronic cigarettes in smoking cessation, more formal studies on safety and efficacy should be completed in order to determine whether these products have a role in smoking cessation.

http://jpp.sagepub.com/content/early/2012/07/11/0897190012451909.abstract

Smoking, childhood IQ, and cognitive function in old age

J Psychosom Res. 2012 Aug;73(2):132-8. Epub 2012 Apr 26.

Corley J, Gow AJ, Starr JM, Deary IJ.

Abstract

OBJECTIVES:

To examine the association between smoking history and cognitive function in old age, and whether it remains after controlling for childhood cognitive ability (IQ) and adult socioeconomic status (SES).

METHODS:

In the Lothian Birth Cohort 1936 Study, 1080 men and women, who previously participated in a nationwide IQ-type test in childhood, were followed up at age 70. The associations between smoking history and age 70 IQ, general cognitive ability (g), processing speed, memory, and verbal ability were assessed.

RESULTS:

Lower childhood IQ was associated with a higher risk of becoming a smoker and continuing to smoke in late life, and with reduced lung function (FEV1) in late life. Current smokers scored significantly lower than ex-smokers and never smokers on tests of age 70 IQ, general cognitive ability, and processing speed, but not memory or verbal ability. After controlling for childhood IQ and SES, current smoking at age 70 (but not pack years of smoking) was associated with impairments in general cognitive ability and processing speed.

CONCLUSION:

Smoking in old age makes a small, independent contribution to cognitive performance in old age.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0022399912000918

Positive impact of the Portuguese smoking law on respiratory health of restaurant workers

J Toxicol Environ Health A. 2012 Jul 1;75(13-15):776-87.

Madureira J, Mendes A, Almeida S, Teixeira JP.

Abstract

The impact of smoke-free law on the respiratory and sensory symptoms among restaurant workers was evaluated. Fifty-two workers in 10 Portuguese restaurants were interviewed before and 2 years after implementation of the smoke-free law.

A significant reduction in self-reported workplace environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) exposure was observed after the enforcement of the law, as well as a marked reduction in adverse respiratory and sensory symptoms such as dry, itching, irritated, or watery eyes, nasal problems, and sore or dry throat or cough, between pre- and post-ban. This study demonstrates that the smoking ban was effective in diminishing the exposure symptoms among workers and consequently in improving their respiratory health. These observations may have implications for policymakers and legislators in other countries currently considering the nature and extent of their smoke-free workplace legislation.

http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15287394.2012.689943

Also:

Occupational exposure to environmental tobacco smoke: a study in Lisbon restaurants http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/15287394.2012.690690

Nicotine and Pathological Angiogenesis

Life Sci. 2012 Jul 11. [Epub ahead of print]

Lee J, Cooke JP.

Abstract

AIMS:

This paper describes the role of endothelial nicotinic acetylcholine receptors (nAChR) in diseases where pathological angiogenesis plays a role.

MAIN METHODS:

An extensive review of the literature was performed, focusing on studies that investigated the effect of nicotine upon angiogenesis.

KEY FINDINGS:

Nicotine induces pathological angiogenesis at clinically relevant concentrations (i.e. at tissue and plasma concentrations similar to those of a light to moderate smoker). Nicotine promotes endothelial cell migration, proliferation, survival, tube formation and nitric oxide (NO) production in vitro, mimicking the effect of other angiogenic growth factors. These in vitro findings indicate that there may be an angiogenic component to the pathophysiology of major tobacco related diseases such as carcinoma, atherosclerosis, and age-related macular degeneration. Indeed, nicotine stimulates pathological angiogenesis in pre-clinical models of these disorders. Subsequently, it has been demonstrated that nicotine stimulates nAChRs on the endothelium to induce angiogenic processes; that these nAChRs are largely of the α 7 homomeric type; and that there are synergistic interactions between the nAChRs and angiogenic growth factor receptors at the phosphoproteomic and genomic levels.

SIGNIFICANCE:

These findings are of potential clinical relevance, and provide mechanistic insights into tobacco-related disease. Furthermore, these findings may lead to novel therapies for diseases characterized by insufficient or inappropriate angiogenesis.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0024320512003402

Telephone Smoking Cessation Quitline Use Among Pregnant and Non-pregnant Women

Matern Child Health J. 2012 Jul 15. [Epub ahead of print]

Bombard JM, Farr SL, Dietz PM, Tong VT, Zhang L, Rabius V.

Abstract

To describe characteristics, referrals, service utilization, and self-reported quit rates among pregnant and non-pregnant women enrolled in a smoking cessation quitline. This information can be used to improve strategies to increase pregnant and non-pregnant smokers' use of quitlines. We examined tobacco use characteristics, referral sources, and use of services among 1,718 pregnant and 24,321 non-pregnant women aged 18-44 years enrolled in quitline services in 10 states during 2006-2008. We examined self-reported 30-day quit rates 7 months after enrollment among 246 pregnant and 4,123 non-pregnant women and, within groups, used Chi-square tests to compare quit rates by type of service received. The majority of pregnant and non-pregnant callers, respectively, smoked ≥10 cigarettes per day (62 %; 83 %), had recently attempted to quit (55 %; 58 %), smoked 5 or minutes after waking (59 %; 55 %), and lived with a smoker (63 %; 48 %). Of callers, 24.3 % of pregnant and 36.4 % of non-pregnant women were uninsured. Pregnant callers heard about the quitline most often from a health care provider (50 %) and non-pregnant callers most often through mass media (59 %). Over half of pregnant (52 %) and non-pregnant (57 %) women received self-help materials only, the remainder received counseling. Self-reported quit rates at 7 months after enrollment in the subsample were 26.4 % for pregnant women and 22.6 % for non-pregnant women. Quitlines provide needed services for pregnant and non-pregnant smokers, many of whom are uninsured. Smokers should be encouraged to access counseling services.

http://www.springerlink.com/content/y141586u2150633n/

Smoking cessation and environmental hygiene

Med Clin North Am. 2012 Jul;96(4):849-67. Epub 2012 Jun 12.

Pirozzi C, Scholand MB.

Abstract

Although there are nonmodifiable genetic risk factors for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), most known risk factors for development and progression of COPD can be corrected. Continued efforts to encourage smoking cessation and measures to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, outdoor air pollution, biomass smoke, and occupational and related amateur exposures will have a significant impact on worldwide health.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S002571251200079X

Letter

Association analyses identify multiple new lung cancer susceptibility loci and their interactions with smoking in the Chinese population

Nat Genet. 2012 Jul 15. doi: 10.1038/ng.2351. [Epub ahead of print]

Dong J, Hu Z, Wu C, Guo H, Zhou B, Lv J, Lu D, Chen K, Shi Y, Chu M, Wang C, Zhang R, Dai J, Jiang Y, Cao S, Qin Z, Yu D, Ma H, Jin G, Gong J, Sun C, Zhao X, Yin Z, Yang L, Li Z, Deng Q, Wang J, Wu W, Zheng H, Zhou G, Chen H, Guan P, Peng Z, Chen Y, Shu Y, Xu L, Liu X, Liu L, Xu P, Han B, Bai C, Zhao Y, Zhang H, Yan Y, Amos Cl, Chen F, Tan W, Jin L, Wu T, Lin D, Shen H.

Abstract

To find additional susceptibility loci for lung cancer, we tested promising associations from our previous genome-wide association study (GWAS) of lung cancer in the Chinese population in an extended validation sample size of 7,436 individuals with lung cancer (cases) and 7,483 controls. We found genome-wide significant ($P < 5.0 \times 10(-8)$) evidence for three additional lung cancer susceptibility loci at 10p14 (rs1663689, close to GATA3, $P = 2.84 \times 10(-10)$), 5q32 (rs2895680 in PPP2R2B-STK32A-DPYSL3, $P = 6.60 \times 10(-9)$) and 20q13.2 (rs4809957 in CYP24A1, $P = 1.20 \times 10(-8)$). We also found consistent associations for rs247008 at 5q31.1 (IL3-CSF2-P4HA2, $P = 7.68 \times 10(-8)$) and rs9439519 at 1p36.32 (AJAP1-NPHP4, $P = 3.65 \times 10(-6)$). Four of these loci showed evidence for interactions with smoking dose ($P = 1.72 \times 10(-10)$), $P = 5.07 \times 10(-3)$, $P = 6.77 \times 10(-3)$ and $P = 4.49 \times 10(-2)$ for rs2895680, rs4809957, rs247008 and rs9439519, respectively). These results advance our understanding of lung cancer susceptibility and highlight potential pathways that integrate genetic variants and smoking in the development of lung cancer.

http://www.nature.com/ng/journal/vaop/ncurrent/full/ng.2351.html

Nicotine Increases Brain Functional Network Efficiency

Neuroimage. 2012 Jul 12. [Epub ahead of print]

Wylie KP, Rojas DC, Tanabe J, Martin LF, Tregellas JR.

Abstract

Despite the use of cholinergic therapies in Alzheimer's disease and the development of cholinergic strategies for schizophrenia, relatively little is known about how the system modulates the connectivity and structure of large-scale brain networks. To better understand how nicotinic cholinergic systems alter these networks, this study examined the effects of nicotine on measures of whole-brain network communication efficiency. Resting-state fMRI was acquired from fifteen healthy subjects before and after the application of nicotine or placebo transdermal patches in a single blind, crossover design. Data, which were previously examined for default network activity, were analyzed with network topology techniques to measure changes in the communication efficiency of whole-brain networks. Nicotine significantly increased local efficiency, a parameter that estimates the network's tolerance to local errors in communication. Nicotine also significantly enhanced the regional efficiency of limbic and paralimbic areas of the brain, areas which are especially altered in diseases such as Alzheimer's disease and schizophrenia. These changes in network topology may be one mechanism by which cholinergic therapies improve brain function.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1053811912007136

Dealing with a Latent Danger: Parents Communicating with Their Children about Smoking

Nurs Res Pract. 2012;2012:382075. Epub 2012 Jun 26.

Small SP, Eastlick Kushner K, Neufeld A.

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to understand parental approach to the topic of smoking with school-age preadolescent children. In-depth interviews were conducted with 38 parents and yielded a grounded theory that explains how parents communicated with their children about smoking. Parents perceived smoking to be a latent danger for their children. To deter smoking from occurring they verbally interacted with their children on the topic and took action by having a nosmoking rule. There were three interaction approaches, which differed by style and method of interaction. Most parents interacted by discussing smoking with their children. They intentionally took advantage of opportunities. Some interacted by telling their children about the health effects of smoking and their opposition to it. They responded on the spur-of-themoment if their attention was drawn to the issue by external cues. A few interacted by acknowledging to their children the negative effects of smoking. They responded only when their children brought it up. The parents' intent for the no-smoking rule, which pertained mainly to their homes and vehicles, was to protect their children from second-hand smoke and limit exposure to smoking. The theory can be used by nurses to guide interventions with parents about youth smoking prevention.

http://www.hindawi.com/journals/nrp/2012/382075/

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

Job Strain and Tobacco Smoking: An Individual-Participant Data Meta-Analysis of 166 130 Adults in 15 European Studies

PLoS One. 2012;7(7):e35463. Epub 2012 Jul 6.

Heikkilä K, Nyberg ST, Fransson El, Alfredsson L, De Bacquer D, Bjorner JB, Bonenfant S, Borritz M, Burr H, Clays E,

Casini A, Dragano N, Erbel R, Geuskens GA, Goldberg M, Hooftman WE, Houtman IL, Joensuu M, Jöckel KH, Kittel F, Knutsson A, Koskenvuo M, Koskinen A, Kouvonen A, Leineweber C, Lunau T, Madsen IE, Hanson LL, Marmot MG, Nielsen ML, Nordin M, Pentti J, Salo P, Rugulies R, Steptoe A, Siegrist J, Suominen S, Vahtera J, Virtanen M, Väänänen A, Westerholm P, Westerlund H, Zins M, Theorell T, Hamer M, Ferrie JE, Singh-Manoux A, Batty GD, Kivimäki M; for the IPD-Work Consortium.

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Tobacco smoking is a major contributor to the public health burden and healthcare costs worldwide, but the determinants of smoking behaviours are poorly understood. We conducted a large individual-participant meta-analysis to examine the extent to which work-related stress, operationalised as job strain, is associated with tobacco smoking in working adults.

METHODOLOGY AND PRINCIPAL FINDINGS:

We analysed cross-sectional data from 15 European studies comprising 166 130 participants. Longitudinal data from six studies were used. Job strain and smoking were self-reported. Smoking was harmonised into three categories never, exand current. We modelled the cross-sectional associations using logistic regression and the results pooled in random effects meta-analyses. Mixed effects logistic regression was used to examine longitudinal associations. Of the 166 130 participants, 17% reported job strain, 42% were never smokers, 33% ex-smokers and 25% current smokers. In the analyses of the cross-sectional data, current smokers had higher odds of job strain than never-smokers (age, sex and socioeconomic position-adjusted odds ratio: 1.11, 95% confidence interval: 1.03, 1.18). Current smokers with job strain smoked, on average, three cigarettes per week more than current smokers without job strain. In the analyses of longitudinal data (1 to 9 years of follow-up), there was no clear evidence for longitudinal associations between job strain and taking up or quitting smoking.

CONCLUSIONS:

Our findings show that smokers are slightly more likely than non-smokers to report work-related stress. In addition, smokers who reported work stress smoked, on average, slightly more cigarettes than stress-free smokers.

http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0035463

Also:

Different genes interact with particulate matter and tobacco smoke exposure in affecting lung function decline in the general population

http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0040175

Factors affecting birth weight of a newborn - a community based study in rural Karnataka, India http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0040040

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

A pharmacologic approach to acquired cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator dysfunction in smoking related lung disease

PLoS One. 2012;7(6):e39809. Epub 2012 Jun 29.

Sloane PA, Shastry S, Wilhelm A, Courville C, Tang LP, Backer K, Levin E, Raju SV, Li Y, Mazur M, Byan-Parker S, Grizzle W, Sorscher EJ, Dransfield MT, Rowe SM.

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

Mucus stasis in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a significant contributor to morbidity and mortality. Potentiators of cystic fibrosis transmembrane conductance regulator (CFTR) activity pharmacologically enhance CFTR function; ivacaftor is one such agent approved to treat CF patients with the G551D-CFTR gating mutation. CFTR potentiators may also be useful for other diseases of mucus stasis, including COPD.

METHODS AND FINDINGS:

In primary human bronchial epithelial cells, exposure to cigarette smoke extract diminished CFTR-mediated anion transport ($65.8\pm0.2\%$ of control, P<0.005) and mucociliary transport ($0.17\pm0.05~\mu m/sec~vs.~2.4\pm0.47~\mu m/sec~control$, P<0.05) by reducing airway surface liquid depth ($7.3\pm0.6~\mu m~vs.~13.0\pm0.6~\mu m~control$, P<0.005) and augmenting mucus expression (by 64%, P<0.05) without altering transepithelial resistance. Smokers with or without COPD had reduced CFTR activity measured by nasal potential difference compared to age-matched non-smokers ($-6.3\pm1.4~and~-8.0\pm2.0~mV$, respectively vs. $-15.2\pm2.7~mV$ control, each P<0.005, n=12-14/group); this CFTR decrement was associated with symptoms of chronic bronchitis as measured by the Breathlessness Cough and Sputum Score (r=0.30, P<0.05) despite controlling for smoking (r=0.31, P<0.05). Ivacaftor activated CFTR-dependent chloride transport in non-CF epithelia and ameliorated the functional CFTR defect induced by smoke to 185 $\pm36\%$ of non-CF control (P<0.05), thereby increasing airway surface liquid (from $7.3\pm0.6~\mu m$ to $10.1\pm0.4~\mu m$, P<0.005) and mucociliary transport (from $0.27\pm0.11~\mu m/s$ to $2.7\pm0.28~\mu m/s, P<0.005$).

CONCLUSIONS:

Cigarette smoking reduces CFTR activity and is causally related to reduced mucus transport in smokers due to inhibition of CFTR dependent fluid transport. These effects are reversible by the CFTR potentiator ivacaftor, representing a potential therapeutic strategy to augment mucociliary clearance in patients with smoking related lung disease.

http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0039809

Also:

CT Scan Screening for Lung Cancer: Risk Factors for Nodules and Malignancy in a High-Risk Urban Cohort http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0039403

Regional heterogeneity in murine lung fibroblasts from normal mice or mice exposed once to cigarette smoke http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0039761

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

The Dyspnoea, Obstruction, Smoking, Exacerbation (DOSE) index is predictive of mortality in COPD

Prim Care Respir J. 2012 Jul 11. pii: pcrj-2012-04-0066. doi: 10.4104/pcrj.2012.00054. [Epub ahead of print]

Sundh J, Janson C, Lisspers K, Ställberg B, Montgomery S.

Abstract

BACKGROUND:

The Dyspnoea, Obstruction, Smoking, Exacerbation (DOSE) index was designed to assess disease severity and for the clinical management of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), but has not been evaluated as a prognostic instrument for mortality in a population including primary care patients.

AIMS:

The aim of this study was to investigate the associations of the DOSE index with mortality in primary and secondary care COPD patients.

METHODS:

Information was collected from 1,111 COPD patients aged 34-75 years randomly selected from 70 Swedish primary and secondary care centres. Data were obtained using patient questionnaires and record review and the Swedish Board of Health and Welfare provided mortality data. The study population included 562 patients with data on all DOSE index components. The DOSE index was calculated using the MRC dyspnoea scale, forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV1) as percentage of predicted (FEV1%pred), smoking status, and exacerbation rate. The exacerbation rate over 6 months prior to record review was used to estimate the annual rate. Cox regression analyses estimated survival with adjustment for age, sex, and heart disease.

RESULTS:

Over 5 years, 116 patients (20.6%) died. Mortality was higher in patients with DOSE index >4 (42.4%) than for lower scores (11.0%) (p<0.0001). Compared with a DOSE index score of 0-3, the hazard ratio for mortality was 3.48 (95% CI 2.32 to 5.22) for a score of 4-5, and was 8.00 (95% CI 4.67 to 13.7) for a score of 6-7.

CONCLUSIONS:

The DOSE index is associated with mortality in COPD patients in primary and secondary care and can be used to assess prognosis in addition to other clinically relevant issues.

http://www.thepcrj.org/journ/view article.php?article id=936 http://www.thepcrj.org/journ/aop/pcrj-2012-04-0066.pdf

Also:

GOLD guidelines 2011: what are the implications for primary care? http://www.thepcrj.org/journ/view article.php?article.id=935http://www.thepcrj.org/journ/aop/pcrj-2012-01-0001-R2.pdf

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

Dietary Intake After Smoking Cessation Among Weight-Concerned Women Smokers

Psychol Addict Behav. 2012 Jul 16. [Epub ahead of print]

Levine MD, Cheng Y, Kalarchian MA, Perkins KA, Marcus MD.

Abstract

Weight gain typically accompanies smoking cessation, and women smokers concerned about postcessation weight gain are prone to substantial gain. Little is known about the ways in which cessation affects dietary composition. Understanding postcessation changes in dietary composition may inform the design of smoking cessation interventions to address postcessation weight gain. Participants were women smokers concerned about postcessation weight gain enrolled in a randomized trial and assigned to either bupropion or placebo and to either standard cessation intervention or standard intervention plus components to address weight concerns. Women completed three, 24-hr food recall interviews at baseline, and at 1 and 6 months following a targeted quit date. At 6 months, 22% of women were abstinent and had gained 3.6 (±2.7) kg, compared to 0.91 (±2.0) kg for women who continued to smoke, p = .42. Abstinent women reported significantly higher energy intake and consumed a smaller percentage of fat across assessment points than did those who continued to smoke. Intervention was not associated with differential weight gain or change in percent of calories from protein, fat, or carbohydrates. This study is the first documentation of energy and macronutrient intake during smoking cessation treatment using a validated 24-hr dietary recall methodology. Although cessation was associated with overall increases in energy intake among women, neither bupropion nor weight concerns treatment affected energy or macronutrient intake. Future research to understand the relation between cessation and dietary intake needs to replicate and extend these findings to elucidate how, if at all, smoking cessation affects dietary intake.

http://psycnet.apa.org/psycinfo/2012-18763-001/

Tobacco use and exposure to tobacco promoting and restraining factors among adolescents in a developing country

Public Health. 2012 Jul 14. [Epub ahead of print]

Doku D, Koivusilta L, Raisamo S, Rimpelä A.

Abstract

OBJECTIVE:

With a long history of tobacco cultivation, adolescents in Ghana are at relatively high risk of the emerging tobacco epidemic in developing countries. This study explored exposure to tobacco promoting/restraining factors and their associations with smoking and tawa (traditional smokeless tobacco) use among 13-18-year-old Ghanaians.

METHODS:

School-based representative data were collected in 2008 (n = 1165).

RESULTS:

Prevalence rates of tobacco use, smoking and tawa use were 9.1% (11.5% boys and 6.4% girls), 6.6% (8.0% boys and 4.7% girls) and 5.7% (7.3% boys and 3.9% girls), respectively. Four percent of the respondents attended schools without a smoking ban, 66% had been taught about the harmful effects of smoking in the current school year, and 53% had been exposed to tobacco advertising. Fifty-three percent of adolescents who had tried to purchase tobacco products were not refused because of their age. Multivariate analyses found that attendance at a school where smoking was allowed, not having been taught about the harmful effects of smoking, exposure to tobacco advertising and parental smoking were positively associated with tobacco use, and knowledge that smoking is harmful to health and difficult to quit were negatively associated with tobacco use.

CONCLUSIONS:

Both smoking and tawa use were relatively low among Ghanaian adolescents. Exposure to tobacco advertising was high. There is no tobacco legislation in Ghana, but societal norms or cultural values seem to restrict smoking in schools and access to tobacco products.

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0033350612001564

Also:

A systematic review on the social context of smokeless tobacco use in the South Asian population: Implications for public health

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0033350612001552

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