

SAND abstract No.12A from the BEACH program 1999 – 2000

This is an errata for SAND abstract 12

Subject: Smoking & Passive Smoking in General Practice Patients

Organisation supporting this study: General Practice Statistics and Classification Unit

Issues: Exposure to passive smoke at home; current smoking status; proportion of daily smokers who attempted to quit.

Sample: 3,784 encounters from 197 GPs; data collection period: 30/11/1999 – 18/02/2000.

Method: Detailed in 'SAND Method' on this website (<http://www.fmrc.org.au/beach.htm>)

Summary of results

The age-sex distribution of the patients was similar to the expected distribution of general practice patients, with the majority of patients (59.7%) being female.

When asked about smoking in the home, one-third of respondents (32.9%; 95% CI: 29.3-36.4) reported "people are not permitted to smoke anywhere". A further 38.7% (95% CI: 35.0-42.4) indicated "smoking is permitted outside only", and in 5.0% "people are permitted to smoke in certain areas only". "Smoking in the home occasionally" was allowed by 10.4% of respondents and 13.0% (95% CI: 11.4-14.5) said "people frequently smoke in the house".

These results show that in over two thirds of patient households there was no passive smoke in the home (71.6%; 95% CI: 69.4-73.8). In a further 15.4% of household there was limited passive smoke (where smoking is permitted only in certain areas, or smoking in the home is only occasional), and in 13.0% (95% CI: 11.4-14.5) there was unlimited passive smoke.

Patients aged 18 years and over were asked to indicate their smoking status. About half (49.5%) had never smoked and 27.8% were previous smokers. Daily smokers accounted for 18.2% of the patients and a further 4.5% reported smoking occasionally.

There was no passive smoke in the home of 30.1% of daily smoker households (95% CI: 26.2-34.0), 45.1% (95% CI: 35.3-55.0) of occasional smokers' households, and 84.5% (95% CI: 82.2-86.8) of never smokers' households.

Adult daily smokers were asked about their quit and reduction attempts during the previous 12 months. Of the 578 adult daily smokers, data on their quit/reduction attempts was available for 553. They could indicate more than one quit/reduction option attempted. Just over 1 in 10 (10.3%; 95% CI: 7.8-12.9) had successfully given up smoking for one month or more (but subsequently started again), and almost one third (31.5%; 95% CI: 26.7-36.3) had a failed quit attempt during the past 12 months. About one in five adult daily smokers (19.4%; 95% CI: 14.9-23.8) had changed brand of cigarettes to a lower tar or nicotine brand, and about a quarter (26.4%; 95% CI: 21.8-31.1) had reduced the number of cigarettes smoked a day during the previous 12 months.

In the previous 12 months:

four in ten adult daily smokers (39.4%; 95% CI 34.2-44.7) attempted to quit smoking; over a third (36.4%; 95% CI: 30.9-41.8) attempted to reduce smoking effects by changing brand and/or reducing the number of cigarettes smoked; 26.9% tried to quit but did not try to reduce smoking; 23.9% attempted to reduce but not to quit; 12.5% tried both quitting and reduction; 36.7% (95% CI: 31.5-41.9) did not attempt to quit or reduce smoking.

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AIHW GP Statistics and Classification Unit, 2000. SAND abstract No. 12A from the BEACH program: Smoking and Passive smoking in general practice patients. Sydney: GPSCU University of Sydney. ISSN 1444-9072

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

The shaded section in the following forms asks questions about **SMOKING**.

PLEASE FILL IN QUESTIONS FOR ALL PATIENTS SEEN. Note: The home smoking question is asked of all patients, but smoking status is only asked of patients over 18.

INSTRUCTIONS

This form has been filled in as an example.

NB The term ‘smoking’ here is used to mean tobacco smoking of any kind, including cigarettes, pipes, and cigars.

ASK THE PATIENT

Which category best describes their home situation ?

If the patient is a child, their carer may answer the question about the child’s home situation.

Tick one box.

ASK THE PATIENT if over 18 years:

Which category best describes their smoking status?

Tick one box.

Only for patients who described themselves as “Daily smokers”.

In the past 12 months, has the patient tried any of the options listed ?

Tick as many of the options listed as apply.

Only for patients who described themselves as “previous smokers”.

About when did the patient last smoke tobacco?

Fill in the month and year that the patient quit smoking (approximately).

<p>To the patient: Which of the following best describes your home situation?</p> <p>People are not permitted to smoke anywhere <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Smoking is permitted outside only <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>People are permitted to smoke in certain areas only <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>People occasionally smoke in the house <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>People frequently smoke in the house <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>To the patient if 18+: Which best describes your smoking status:</p> <p>Smoke daily <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Smoke occasionally ... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Previous smoker <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Never smoked <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>If daily smoker: In the last 12 months, have you:</p> <p>Successfully given up smoking (for more than a month)? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Tried to give up unsuccessfully? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Changed to a cigarette brand with lower tar or nicotine content? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Reduced the amount of tobacco you smoke in a day? <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>None of these <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>If previous smoker: When did you last smoke tobacco? (approximately)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <table border="1" style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">8</td> <td style="width: 20px; text-align: center;">98</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">month</td> <td style="text-align: center;">year</td> </tr> </table> </p> <p style="text-align: right;">B18L</p>	8	98	month	year
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