

Cuba - Havana - Medical Students (3rd Year Students Only) Global Health Professions Student Survey (GHPSS)

FACT SHEET

The Cuba - Havana medical students GHPSS includes data on prevalence of cigarette smoking and use of other tobacco products, knowledge and attitudes about tobacco use, exposure to second-hand smoke, desire for smoking cessation, and training received during medical school regarding patient counseling on smoking cessation techniques. This information could be very useful in monitoring and developing Cuba - Havana's comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Cuba - Havana medical students GHPSS was a census of 3rd year medical students attending the 9 medical schools in Cuba - Havana that was conducted in 2008. The school response rate was 100% and the student response rate was 80.2%. A total of 477 students participated in the Cuba - Havana medical students GHPSS.

Prevalence

63.4% ever smoked cigarettes (Males = 71.1%, Females = 58.0%)
29.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Males = 41.1%, Females = 21.2%)
12.9% ever used any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 15.3%, Females = 11.2%)
4.1% currently use any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 4.1%, Females = 4.1%)
48.4% of ever smokers smoked on school premises/property during the past year.
53.9% of ever smokers smoked in school buildings during the past year.

Factors Influencing Tobacco Use

71.3% were exposed to second-hand smoke at home, during the past week.
91.8% were exposed to second-hand smoke in public places during the past week.
60.8% reported that their school had a ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics.
31.4% reported that their school enforced the ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics.
93.9% thought smoking should be banned in all enclosed public places.
94.3% thought tobacco sales to adolescents should be banned.
81.0% thought there should be a complete ban on advertising tobacco products.
58.2% of current smokers wanted to stop smoking.
37.1% of current smokers ever received help/advice to stop smoking cigarettes.
93.3% were taught about the dangers of smoking during medical school training.

Role Model and Cessation Training

97.0% thought health professionals serve as role models for their patients.
100.0% thought health professionals have a role in giving advice about smoking cessation to patients.
28.9% received formal training in smoking cessation approaches during medical school.
98.7% thought health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques.

Highlights

Three in 10 currently smoke cigarettes and 4.1% currently use other tobacco products.

Close to 3 in 5 smokers indicated that they want to quit.

Over 9 in 10 were exposed to smoke in public places.

More than 9 in 10 support a ban on smoking in all enclosed public places.

Almost 3 in 10 received training to provide patients with cessation approaches.

Nearly all think health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques to use with patients.