

Tunisia - Dental Students 2010 (3rd Year Students Only) Global Health Professions Student Survey (GHPSS)

FACT SHEET

The Tunisia Dental 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 Dental school regarding patient counseling on smoking cessation techniques. This information could be very useful in monitoring and developing Tunisia's comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Tunisia Dental students GHPSS was a census of 3rd year Dental students attending the Dental school in Tunisia conducted in 2010. A total of 135 3rd year students participated in the Tunisia Dental students GHPSS. The overall response rate of all Dental students surveyed was 60.9%

Prevalence

- 58.3% ever smoked cigarettes (Males = 90.2%, Females = 38.3%)
- 28.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Males = 55.0%, Females = 13.0%)
- 44.7% ever used any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 73.8%, Females = 27.5%)
- 13.8% currently use any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 28.6%, Females = 6.4%)
- 10.1% currently smoke shisha (Males = 19.0%, Females = 5.1%)
- 47.4% of ever smokers smoked on school premises/property during the past year
- 39.3% of ever smokers smoked in school buildings during the past year

Factors Influencing Tobacco Use

- 35.1% were exposed to second-hand smoke at home, during the past week
- 52.7% were exposed to second-hand smoke in public places during the past week
- 30.4% reported that their school had a ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics
- 52.9% reported that their school enforced the ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics[†]
- 87.9% thought smoking should be banned in all enclosed public places
- 75.8% thought tobacco sales to adolescents should be banned
- 81.9% thought there should be a complete ban on advertising tobacco products
- 50.0% of current smokers wanted to stop smoking[†]
- 43.5% of current smokers ever received help/advice to stop smoking cigarettes[†]

Role Model and Cessation Training

- 74.2% thought health professionals serve as role models for their patients
- 82.9% thought health professionals have a role in giving advice about smoking cessation to patients
- 30.3% received formal training in smoking cessation approaches during dental school
- 84.1% thought health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques

([†] The percentage is based on observations between 10 and 34)

Highlights

28.3% currently smoke cigarettes and 13.8% currently use other tobacco products

Half the smokers indicated that they want to quit

Over five in 10 were exposed to smoke in public places

Almost nine in 10 support a ban on smoking in all enclosed public places

Three in 10 received training in smoking cessation approaches to use with patients

Over eight in 10 think health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques to use with patients