

Pakistan - Medical Students 2011 (3rd Year Students Only) Global Health Professions Student Survey (GHPSS)

FACT SHEET

The Pakistan 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 Pakistan's comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Pakistan Medical students GHPSS was a census of 3rd year Medical students attending the 21 Medical schools in Pakistan conducted in 2011. A total of 2,746 3rd year students participated in the Pakistan Medical students GHPSS. The overall response rate of all Medical students surveyed was 69.2%.

Prevalence

28.4% ever smoked cigarettes (Males = 52.3%, Females = 15.8%)
10.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Males = 26.4%, Females = 2.4%)
23.4% ever used any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 37.4%, Females = 15.6%)
10.1% currently use any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 19.9%, Females = 4.6%)
7.0% currently smoke Shisha (Males= 13.4%, Females= 3.5%)
31.3% of ever smokers smoked on school premises/property during the past year
25.7% of ever smokers smoked in school buildings during the past year

Factors Influencing Tobacco Use

41.5% were exposed to second-hand smoke at home, during the past week
57.7% were exposed to second-hand smoke in public places during the past week
36.8% reported that their school had a ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics
51.8% reported that their school enforced the ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics
92.9% thought smoking should be banned in all enclosed public places
89.2% thought tobacco sales to adolescents should be banned
89.5% thought there should be a complete ban on advertising tobacco products
66.8% of current smokers wanted to stop smoking
63.7% of current smokers ever received help/advice to stop smoking cigarettes
72.7% were taught about the dangers of smoking during Medical school training

Role Model and Cessation Training

76.5% thought health professionals serve as role models for their patients
87.0% thought health professionals have a role in giving advice about smoking cessation to patients
23.8% received formal training in smoking cessation approaches during Medical school
93.0% thought health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques

Highlights

10.7% currently smoke cigarettes and 10.1% currently use other tobacco products

Nearly three in five were exposed to tobacco use in public places

Over nine in 10 support a ban on tobacco use in all enclosed public places

Almost one-quarter received training in tobacco use cessation approaches to use with patients

More than nine in 10 think health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques to use with patients