

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

FACT SHEET

The Venezuela 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 Venezuela's comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Venezuela Medical students GHPSS was a one-stage cluster sample of 3rd year Medical students attending 3 Medical schools in Venezuela conducted in 2011. A total of 1,965 3rd year students participated in the Venezuela Medical students GHPSS. The overall response rate of all Medical students surveyed was 64.0%.

Prevalence

- 44.2% ever smoked cigarettes (Males = 56.6%, Females = 39.2%)
- 22.2% ever used other tobacco products (Males = 33.6%, Females = 17.5%)
- 12.2% currently smoke cigarettes (Males = 19.8%, Females = 8.9%)
- 5.6% currently use other tobacco products (Males = 10.0%, Females = 3.8%)
- 50.3% ever used any tobacco products (Males= 61.4%, Female= 45.7%)
- 15.1% currently use any tobacco products (Males= 24.6%, Female= 11.0%)
- 10.2% ever used chewing chimó (Males= 17.9%, Female= 7.0%)
- 2.3% currently use chewing chimó (Males= 4.7%, Female= 1.2%)
- 22.5% of ever smokers smoked on school premises/property during the past year
- 21.9% of ever smokers smoked in school buildings during the past year

Factors Influencing Tobacco Use

- 33.8% were exposed to second-hand smoke at home, during the past week
- 59.0% were exposed to second-hand smoke in enclosed public places during the past week
- 78.0% were exposed to second-hand smoke in outdoor public places during the past week
- 28.1% reported that their school had a ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics
- 41.1% reported that their school enforced the ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics
- 96.9% thought smoking should be banned in all enclosed public places.
- 94.9% thought tobacco sales to adolescents should be banned.
- 84.9% thought there should be a complete ban on advertising tobacco products
- 66.2% of current smokers wanted to stop smoking
- 17.9% of current smokers ever received help/advice to stop smoking cigarettes
- 78.3% were taught about the dangers of smoking during medical school training

Role Model and Cessation Training

- 77.7% thought health professionals serve as role models for their patients
- 98.6% thought health professionals have a role in giving advice about smoking cessation to patients
- 15.1% received formal training in smoking cessation approaches during medical school
- 96.0% thought health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques

Highlights

12.2% currently smoke cigarettes and 5.6% currently use other tobacco products

Two-thirds of the smokers indicated that they want to quit

Six in 10 were exposed to smoke in public places

96.9% support a ban on smoking in all enclosed public places

15.1% received training to provide patients with cessation approaches

96.0% think health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques to use with patients