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Filename: 953504

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Abstract Category: 12.03 - Smoking: Prevention/Education/Cessation

Presentation format: Either Poster or Oral

Travel Award: Yes

Publication of email address: Yes, avidela@cas.austral.edu.ar

I confirm that all authors listed on this abstract have knowledge of the abstract submission: Yes

Title: Smoking prevalence among hospital-based physicians in Argentina: FU.M.A.H.B.A. study final results.

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Introduction: Smoking exerts an influence over physicians' attitudes and actions towards tobacco . Smoking prevalence in Argentina is 34% . Previous national surveys found a 30% prevalence among medical students and 25% prevalence among specialists .

Objectives: To measure smoking prevalence using biological measurements among hospital-based physicians of the Province of Buenos Aires, the biggest region of Argentina.

Methods: we performed a cross-sectional survey in Public Hospitals between November 2004 and October 2005 using a previously validated questionnaire and CO measurements in expired air (COesp).

Results: We randomly selected 1333 physicians from the payrolls of 7 Hospitals. Rejection rate was 2%. CO esp were obtained in 99%. Median age: 43 years. Males: 55%.

In the studied sample 81% had ever smoked, 69% had smoked at least for six months, 32.5%

were current smokers, and 25.1% were daily smokers. Using a cut off of COesp values > 10 ppm smoking prevalence was 24,1 %. There were no significant differences in gender. Smoking was significantly different between hospital group (from 28 to 39,7% for any smoking and 19,2 to 31,2% for daily smokers).

Conclusions: smoking is highly prevalent among the studied group showing no differences with the general population of Argentina. Interventions are immediately required to induce smoking cessation in physicians and turn them into action against tobacco.

Funded By: Unrestricted research grant by Boehringer Ingelheim Inc

Off-Label Use Disclosure: No

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Industry-sponsored grants (received or pending) including contracted research	Yes	Boehringer Ingelheim Inc
Patents received or pending	No	
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Filename: 955752

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Abstract Category: 12.03 - Smoking: Prevention/Education/Cessation

Presentation format: Either Poster or Oral

Travel Award: Yes

Publication of email address: Yes, salvadorpace@arnet.com.ar

I confirm that all authors listed on this abstract have knowledge of the abstract submission: Yes

Title: Smoking among medical specialties, education and workplace restrictions: results from the F.U.M.A.H.B.A. study.

S.A. Pace, MD¹, A.J. Videla, MD¹, N. Papavero, MD¹, G. Delgado, Ps¹, A. Manti, MD¹, B. Hendriksen, MD¹, B. Martinez, MD¹, C. Angiolini, MD¹, M.C. Gaitan, MD¹, S. Nahabedian, MD¹, M.A. Martinez Cortizas, MD¹ and FUMAHBA Study Group¹. ¹Sociedad de Tisiología y Neumonología de la Provincia, Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Introduction: Smoking prevalence can vary among medical specialties. Education on smoking should be a central component of medical education, however real knowledge of tobacco issues and smoking cessation strategies can be scarce among doctors.

Objectives: 1- To determine differences in smoking prevalence among medical specialties in physicians of Public Hospitals 2- To evaluate knowledge of tobacco issues and smoking cessation strategies. 3- To explore the enforcing of smoking bans in workplaces.

Methods: we performed a cross-sectional survey in Public Hospitals of the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina between November 2004 and October 2005 using a previously validated questionnaire and CO measurements in expired air (CO_{esp}).

Results: We randomly selected 1333 physicians from the payrolls of 7 Hospitals. Rejection rate

was 2%. CO esp were obtained in 99%. Median age: 43 years. Males: 55%. Gynecologists (48%), psychiatrists (47%) and ICU physicians (40%) had the highest prevalences . 97,6% of subjects considered smoking an addiction and 96% recognized environmental tobacco smoke as harmful. These opinions were significantly influenced by smoking status. ($p < 0.05$ for both opinions) . Only 24% acknowledged receiving information on tobacco during their medical education but just 6,9% knew about the 5 "As" plan. 40% reported no smoking restriction at their workplaces.

Conclusions: Smoking prevalence varied widely among specialties. Smoking affected opinions on tobacco issues. Education on tobacco as well as smoking cessation strategies is insufficient . Smoking restrictions in Public Hospitals are poorly enforced.

Funded By: Unrestricted research grant by Boehringer Ingelheim, Inc

Off-Label Use Disclosure: No

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Financial Disclosure: Yes

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