Aboriginal tobacco resistance and control

Reducing smoking rates among Aboriginal people is a priority for NSW Health. NSW Health delivers a range of Aboriginal tobacco resistance and control activities at local, regional and state levels.



Decreased proportion of Aboriginal adults aged 16 years and over who smoke from 42.5% in 2008 to 28.5 % in 2017.



Decreased proportion of pregnant Aboriginal women who smoke from 50.2% in 2008 to 42.4% in 2017.³

Progress to date

INITIATIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS	
The Quit for New Life program was designed to reduce tobacco related harm among women having an Aboriginal baby by addressing maternal smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke. Under the program, women were offered culturally appropriate advice, referral to NSW Quitline, free nicotine replacement therapy where appropriate for themselves and cohabitants, and extended follow-up.	In 2017, the program supported 939 clients in their quit attempt. This included 536 Aboriginal pregnant women, 153 Aboriginal postnatal women and 250 cohabitants. Under this program, 13 local health districts have made significant steps towards imbedding best practice cessation care in Aboriginal Maternal and Infant Health services, Building Strong Foundation services and selected hospital clinics. All local health districts involved have a plan in place to sustain progress on these practice changes.	
Deliver the Aboriginal Quitline	 Provide an individually tailored and culturally accepted smoking cessation support service to Aboriginal callers. Female and male Aboriginal advisors provide tailored advice to Aboriginal callers. An Aboriginal Quitline coordinator develops and implements community engagement activities, including talks to community groups about the service. Aboriginal specific quit resources are available. The Koori Quitline Facebook page supports the engagement activity of the Aboriginal Quitline and provides a place for the Aboriginal community to connect online and share their real life quit smoking stories. The page launched in September 2017 and had approximately 2700 page likes by the end of 2017-18 financial year. 	
Aboriginal specific social marketing campaigns	Four grants were awarded in the 2017-18 financial year as part of the Aboriginal Tobacco Control Social Marketing grants round. Work on these grants covers various social marketing activities including sponsorship of teams for the Koori Knockout, production of short videos, establishment of support groups on Facebook, and community engagement at events.	

Future priorities

In the 2018-19 financial year, NSW Health has a strategic objective of ensuring preventive and population health programs to reduce tobacco use.

Further information

Tobacco and smoking control in NSW on NSW Health website www.health.nsw.gov.au/tobacco/Pages/default.aspx
Stopping Smoking on the Cancer Institute NSW website www.cancerinstitute.org.au/how-we-help/cancer-prevention/stopping-smoking

References: 1. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2018. Australia's health 2018. Australia's health series no. 16. AUS 221. Canberra: AIHW. 2. Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence. HealthStats NSW. Sydney: NSW Ministry of Health. Available at: www.healthstats.nsw.gov.au. 3. State Government of Victoria (SGV) 2014. Pregnancy and smoking. 4. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2014. The health consequences of smoking—50 years of progress: a report of the Surgeon General (PDF). Atlanta: USDHHS, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health.

For more information contact the Tobacco Information Line on 1800 357 412

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NSW Ministry of Health, Snapshot of Tobacco Strategy 2018, 12/18.

NSW MINISTRY OF HEALTH

73 Miller Street
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060
Tel. (02) 9391 9000
Fax. (02) 9391 9101
TTY. (02) 9391 9900
www.health.nsw.gov.au



NSW HEALTH

Tobacco Strategy



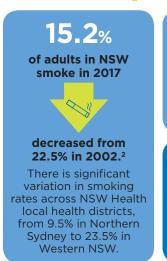
Tobacco smoking is the leading cause of disease and premature death in Australia and a leading risk factor for many chronic conditions.

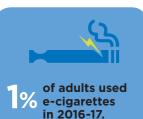
The largest impact from tobacco use is on cancer, respiratory diseases and cardiovascular disease.1 In NSW, smoking attributed to 47,100 hospitalisations and 5,460 deaths in 2014-15.

The NSW Government implements a comprehensive approach to tobacco control. This includes community education, guit support, strong public health laws and targeted and tailored support for groups with higher levels of smoking.

As a result, the smoking rates adults aged 16 years and over declined from 22.5 per cent in 2002 to 15.2 per cent in 2017² (18.1 per cent of men and 12.3 per cent of women). However, smoking rates have remained relatively stable since 2015.

Current progress





99% compliance with smoke-free outdoors laws was observed during inspections in 2017.





Increased proportion of adults living in

smoke-free homes from 88.2% in 2008 to 94.3% in 2016.

Increased proportion of adults driving smoke-free cars from 87.1% in 2008 to 91.8% in 2016.

to 6.4% in 2017.

Smoking during pregnancy



% of pregnant women smoked during pregnancy in 2017.

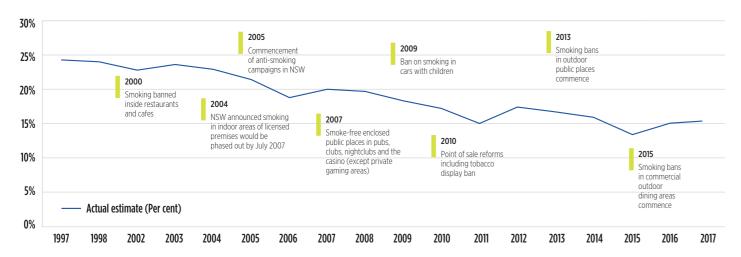
The smoking rate among women during pregnancy decreased from 16.3% in 2002 to 8.8% in 2017.

Reducing the rate of smoking during pregnancy is a priority for NSW Health

Exposure to tobacco smoke causes numerous health conditions among adults and children, and smoking (first or second hand) during pregnancy can affect the health of both mother and baby.3 4

There is cessation support in place for women who smoke during pregnancy. This includes health workers routinely identifying smokers and providing them with advice and referrals to treatment.

Smoking in NSW adults, 16 years and over and major NSW tobacco control **initiatives 1997-2017**



Key program elements and status



PRIORITIES	OBJECTIVES	ACHIEVEMENTS
Educate the public Campaigns to help smokers to quit and stay quit continue to evolve to match changing media consumption habits with an 'always on digital' approach and increased use of online video.	Motivate smokers to quit.	 In the 2017-18 financial year, the Cancer Institute NSW implemented the annual tobacco control campaign program that comprised six sub-campaigns, four of which were TV-led. The aim of the annual program was to accelerate quit intentions and motivate quit attempts with the smoking population of NSW. Interim evaluation results of the 2017-18 campaign program show that 23 per cent of smokers intend to quit within the next 30 days and that 10 per cent of smokers have made a quit attempt in the past month.
Provide cessation support Deliver NSW Quitline to help smokers to quit including implementing strategies to improve referral to the Quitline and provide support for people with a mental health illness and other disadvantaged groups to stop smoking. The iCanQuit website has been improved and updated to be more engaging.	Provide evidence based cessation services to support smokers to quit.	In 2017, there were: • 10,248 incoming calls to NSW Quitline. • 639,684 unique visits to the iCanQuit website.
The Cancer Institute NSW offers a grants program to individuals and organisations for programs, resources and research.	Support community driven tobacco control activity.	In the 2017-18 financial year, the Cancer Institute NSW managed 16 grants for tobacco control and smoking cessation within priority populations.
Ensure patients and clients of health services are asked about smoking status and provided support to quit.	Provide evidence based smoking cessation support via health professionals.	In 2017 the Cancer Institute NSW released the <i>Smoking Cessation Framework for NSW Health Services</i> , to support local health districts to implement smoking cessation interventions. In June 2017 the Cancer Institute NSW commenced implementation of the Health Professional Engagement Strategy to engage health professionals to refer patients and clients who smoke to NSW Quitline.
Smoke-free law The Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 prohibits smoking in enclosed and some outdoor public areas including in commercial outdoor dining areas. From 1 July 2018, under the Smoke-free Environment Act 2000 and the Passenger Transport (General) Regulation 2017, people cannot use e-cigarettes in smoke-free areas. They can use e-cigarettes where smoking is not banned. NSW Health inspectors enforce and monitor compliance with smoke-free laws. They conduct inspections in response to complaints received about smoke-free law breaches and can issue cautions or fines of \$300 to people who break the smoking ban.	Reduce exposure to second-hand smoke.	 From July 2017 to June 2018: Over 1400 inspections of smoke-free outdoor areas with 99 per cent compliance rate among people in those areas. NSW Health inspectors issued 71 on the spot fines and 327 first cautions. NSW Police issued an additional 5979 fines at transport stops and platforms.
Restrict advertising, promotion and supply of tobacco and e-cigarettes The Public Health (Tobacco) Act 2008 restricts the availability and supply of tobacco and e-cigarettes. This includes bans on advertising and promotion. In 2016 inspectors gained the power to seize tobacco that is illegal to sell.	Protect children and young people from potential risks that tobacco and e-cigarettes may pose.	 From July 2017 to June 2018: 96 per cent of 699 tobacco retailers inspected complied with tobacco sales to minors laws. 99 per cent of 80 retailers inspected complied with e-cigarette sales to minors laws. 88 per cent of 2218 tobacco retailers inspected complied with point of sale tobacco retail requirements. 17 complaints about illegal tobacco were investigated, resulting in 36 seizures of illegal tobacco. Inspectors seized and destroyed 170,617 cigarettes and 277 kilograms of other tobacco.
Nicotine is a dangerous poison. The <i>Poisons</i> and <i>Therapeutic Goods Regulation 2008</i> makes the sale of nicotine, including in e-liquids and in electronic cigarettes, illegal.		From July 2017 to June 2018, NSW Health inspectors visited 130 retailers and seized over 700 bottles of liquid nicotine.