Those Who Continue To Smoke

Is Achieving Abstinence Harder and Do We Need to Change Our Interventions?
Smoking and Tobacco Control Monographs Issued to Date


Preface

The End of An Era

Monograph 15, entitled *Those Who Continue to Smoke: Is Achieving Abstinence Harder and Do We Need to Change Our Interventions?*, marks the end of an era. It is the last of the original series of *Smoking and Tobacco Control Monographs* begun in 1991 under the editorial direction of Donald R. Shopland, former coordinator for the Smoking and Tobacco Control Program (STCP) at the National Cancer Institute. From the very inception of the monograph series, the National Cancer Institute has been extremely fortunate to have had David M. Burns, M.D., professor of family and preventive medicine at the University of California at San Diego, serve as senior scientific editor.

The National Cancer Institute honors the significant contributions of both these men. Mr. Shopland and Dr. Burns have brought keen insight, knowledge, creativity, and boundless energy and dedication to the production of the monographs. Much of the success of this first series of *Smoking and Tobacco Control Monographs* can be attributed to the vision and commitment of these two leaders in the tobacco control community. Their efforts, and those of the hundreds of other contributors to the first 15 volumes, have laid a solid groundwork for future series.

The National Cancer Institute remains strongly committed to producing and disseminating state-of-the-science smoking and tobacco control monographs. The new series will draw from the strengths of the first series and add several new processes and features to improve the breadth, depth, and policy relevance of the evidence reviewed. One major goal will be to provide the most objective and thorough syntheses of research to inform the ongoing efforts of the National Cancer Institute and the extramural research and tobacco control communities.

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Monograph 15 is the result of a set of analyses commissioned and funded jointly by the National Cancer Institute and the Tobacco Control Section of the California Department of Health Services. William Ruppert, M.S., health program specialist, Tobacco Control Section, California Department of Health Services, Sacramento, CA, was the project officer for the contract.

The Introduction was written by C. Tracy Orleans, Ph.D., senior scientist and senior program officer at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, based on her comments at a symposium sponsored by the National Cancer Institute at the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) Eighth Annual Meeting held on February 20, 2002, in Savannah, GA. At this symposium, entitled Hardening the Target: Are Smokers Less Likely to Quit Now Than in the Past?, authors of several chapters of Monograph 15 participated in a discussion of the scientific evidence, and Dr. Orleans served as the discussant. Chapter 2 is based on data available as of February 2002.

The managing editor of Monograph 15 is Richard H. Amacher, project director, KBM Group Inc., Silver Spring, MD. Stephen E. Marcus, Ph.D., completed the editorial direction of the monograph after Mr. Shopland retired and served as its managing editor after the KBM contract ended.

The editors gratefully acknowledge the many researchers and authors who made this monograph possible through their numerous hours of writing and review. Contributors to each chapter are as follows:

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