

India Global Health Professional Students Survey (GHPSS), 2006

FACT SHEET

The GHPSS is a Health Professionals school based survey on a representative sample in defined geographical sites through standard methodology used throughout the world. The project is supported by World Health Organization and Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, USA. In India the survey was conducted for third year medical students, during 2006. A one-stage cluster sample design was used to obtain representative data for India. The medical schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. In sampled schools all third year students were eligible to participate.

India GHPSS results consist of responses from 12086 individual third year medical students from 15 medical schools in India. It includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use; environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, and cessation Training etc. These findings are components India could include in implementation of the comprehensive tobacco control program.

Prevalence

28.2 ever smoked cigarettes.
27.2% ever used tobacco products other than cigarettes
11.6% currently smoke cigarettes
5.4% currently use tobacco products other than cigarettes

Smoking ban Policy

48% of medical schools have an official policy banning smoking in school buildings and clinics
Of the medical schools having an official policy banning smoking, 62.9% enforced it.
21.1% of ever smokers smoked on school premises/property during the past year
14.8% of ever smokers smoked in school buildings during the past year

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

42.8% have had one or more people smoke in their home during the past 7 days
73.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
91.6% think smoking should be banned in Restaurants
59.7% think smoking should be banned in Pubs and bars
92.4% think smoking should be banned in all enclosed spaces.

Tobacco Cessation attitude and attempts among Current Smokers

71.8% of current cigarette smokers want to stop smoking now
76.9% tried to stop smoking during the past year

Attitude on health professionals role and training

91.0% believed that health professionals should get training on cessation techniques.
73.8% believed that health professionals should serve as role models for people at large.

Training

93.1% learned to take patients' tobacco use as part of medical history
22.3% learned cessation approaches to use with patients

Highlights

- Nearly 2 in 10 students currently use some form of tobacco
- Over 4 in 10 students were exposed to ETS inside their homes and over 7 in 10 students exposed in public places.
- Almost 7 in 10 current smokers want to stop smoking now.
- Nearly 7 in 10 students think health professionals serve as role models for their patients and the public.
- Nearly 9 in 10 believed that health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques
- About 2 in 10 students had learned cessation approaches to use with patients