

# CAN ADAPTT

## Canadian Smoking Cessation Guideline

### Overview of Summary Statements

For the complete guideline please visit: [www.can-adaptt.net](http://www.can-adaptt.net)



## CAN-ADAPTT: Practice-Informed and Evidence-based Smoking Cessation Guideline

CAN-ADAPTT worked with the Guidelines Advisory Committee (GAC) to conduct a literature search (years: 2002-2009) to identify existing clinical practice guidelines (CPGs). Five existing clinical practice guidelines were identified as meeting the high quality criteria set out in the [AGREE Instrument](#). The recommendations contained in these high quality CPGs have been used as the evidence base for the CAN-ADAPTT guideline development process. Visit [www.can-adaptt.net](http://www.can-adaptt.net) to view CAN-ADAPTT's guideline development methodology.

CAN-ADAPTT's development process reflects a dynamic opportunity to ensure that its guideline is practice informed and addresses issues of applicability in the Canadian context. It has built from the evidence and recommendations contained in existing guidelines. It did not review the primary literature to inform the development of its Summary Statements unless emerging evidence was identified by the Guideline Development Group. The CAN-ADAPTT Guideline Development Group has provided the below Summary Statements. The Pharmacotherapy section is pending a systematic review.

The full text guideline is available online at [www.can-adaptt.net](http://www.can-adaptt.net). Each section includes the following headings:

- ✓ Overview of Evidence
- ✓ Background
- ✓ Summary Statements
- ✓ Clinical Considerations
- ✓ Tools and Resources
- ✓ Research Gaps

We invite you, through our website and discussion board, to comment on the applicability and usability of this guideline, suggest additional tools and resources, and help to identify any gaps in knowledge.

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For more information, or to view the complete guideline, visit [www.can-adaptt.net](http://www.can-adaptt.net).

Suggested citation: CAN-ADAPTT. (January 2011). *Canadian Practice-Informed Smoking Cessation Guideline: Summary Statements*. Toronto, Canada: Canadian Action Network for the Advancement, Dissemination and Adoption of Practice-informed Tobacco Treatment, Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

### Counselling and Psychosocial Approaches

1. <b>ASK:</b> Tobacco use status should be updated, for all patients/clients, by all health care providers on a regular basis.	1, A
2. <b>ADVISE:</b> Health care providers should clearly advise patients/clients to quit.	1, C
3. <b>ASSESS:</b> Health care providers should assess the willingness of patients/clients to begin treatment to achieve abstinence (quitting).	1, C
4. <b>ASSIST:</b> Every tobacco user who expresses the willingness to begin treatment to quit should be offered assistance.	1, A
a) Minimal interventions, of 1-3 minutes, are effective and should be offered to every tobacco user. However, there is a strong dose-response relationship between the session length and successful treatment, and so intensive interventions should be used whenever possible.	1, A
b) Counselling by a variety or combination of delivery formats (self-help, individual, group, helpline, web-based) is effective and should be used to assist patients/clients who express a willingness to quit.	1, A
c) Because multiple counselling sessions increase the chances of prolonged abstinence, health care providers should provide <i>four or more counselling sessions</i> where possible.	1, A
d) Combining counselling and smoking cessation medication is more effective than either alone, therefore both should be provided to patients/clients trying to stop smoking where feasible.	1, A
e) Motivational interviewing is encouraged to support patient's/client's willingness to engage in treatment now and in the future.	1, B
f) Two types of counselling and behavioural therapies yield significantly higher abstinence rates and should be included in smoking cessation treatment: 1) providing practical counselling on problem solving skills or skill training and 2) providing support as a part of treatment.	1, B
5. <b>ARRANGE:</b> Health care providers:	
a) should conduct regular follow-up to assess response, provide support and modify treatment as necessary.	1, C
b) are encouraged to refer patients/clients to relevant resources as part of the provision of treatment, where appropriate.	1, A

## Summary Statement

GR/LOE\*

### Aboriginal Peoples†

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. Tobacco misuse‡ status should be updated for all Aboriginal peoples by all health care providers on a regular basis.                                 | 1, A |
| 2. All health care providers should offer assistance to Aboriginal peoples who misuse tobacco with specific emphasis on culturally appropriate methods. | 1, C |
| 3. All health care providers should be familiar with available cessation support services for Aboriginal peoples.                                       | 1, C |
| 4. All individuals working with Aboriginal peoples should seek appropriate training in providing evidence-based smoking cessation support.              | 1, C |

### Hospital-based Populations

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. All patients should be made aware of hospital smoke-free policies.   | 1, C |
| 2. All elective patients who smoke should be directed to resources to assist them to quit smoking prior to hospital admission or surgery, where possible. | 1, B |
| 3. All hospitals should have systems in place to:   |      |
| a) identify all smokers;  | 1, A |
| b) manage nicotine withdrawal during hospitalization;   | 1, C |
| c) promote attempts toward long-term cessation; and   | 1, A |
| d) provide patients with follow-up support post-hospitalization.  | 1, A |
| 4. Pharmacotherapy should be considered:  |      |
| a) to assist patients to manage nicotine withdrawal in hospital;  | 1, C |
| b) for use in-hospital and post-hospitalization to promote long term cessation.   | 1, B |

\*GR – Grade of Recommendation, LOE – Level of Evidence

† Aboriginal Peoples is used as an inclusive term which includes First Nations (both on and off reserve), Inuit, and Métis. This is not meant to take away from the diversity that exists among Aboriginal peoples.

‡ Tobacco misuse does not refer to tobacco use for traditional/ceremonial purposes.

### Mental Health and/or Other Addictions

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. Health care providers should screen persons with mental illness and/or other addictions for tobacco use.   | 1, A |
| 2. Health care providers should offer counselling and pharmacotherapy treatment to persons who smoke and have a mental illness and/or addiction to other substances.  | 1, A |
| 3. While reducing smoking or abstaining (quitting), health care providers should monitor the patient's/client's psychiatric condition(s) (mental health status and/or other addiction(s)). Medication dosage should be monitored and adjusted as necessary. | 1, A |

### Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. Smoking cessation should be encouraged for all pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women.   | 1, A |
| 2. During pregnancy and breastfeeding, counselling is recommended as first line treatment for smoking cessation.  | 1, A |
| 3. If counselling is found ineffective, intermittent dosing nicotine replacement therapies (such as lozenges, gum) are preferred over continuous dosing of the patch after a risk-benefit analysis. | 1, C |
| 4. Partners, friends and family members should also be offered smoking cessation interventions.   | 2, B |
| 5. A smoke-free home environment should be encouraged for pregnant and breastfeeding women to avoid exposure to second-hand smoke.  | 1, B |

### Youth (Children and Adolescents)

- |   |        |
|---|--------|
| 1. Health care providers, who work with youth (children and adolescents) should obtain information about tobacco use (cigarettes, cigarillos, waterpipe, etc.) on a regular basis.    | 1, A   |
| 2. Health care providers are encouraged to provide counselling that supports abstinence from tobacco and/or cessation to youth (children and adolescents) that use tobacco.           | 2, C   |
| 3. Health care providers in pediatric health care settings should counsel parents/guardians about the potential harmful effects of second-hand smoke on the health of their children. | 2, C § |

\*GR – Grade of Recommendation, LOE – Level of Evidence

§ Priest N, Roseby R, Waters E, Polnay A, Campbell R, Spencer N, Webster P, Ferguson-Thorne G. Family and carer smoking control programmes for reducing children's exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews 2008, Issue 4. Art. No.: CD001746. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD001746.pub2

**Table 1. Grade of Recommendation & Level of Evidence Summary Table\*\***

<b>GR/LOE*</b>	<b>Clarity of risk/benefit</b>	<b>Quality of supporting evidence</b>	<b>Implications</b>
<b>1A.</b> Strong recommendation. High quality evidence.	Benefits clearly outweigh risk and burdens, or vice versa	Consistent evidence from well performed randomized, controlled trials or overwhelming evidence of some other form. Further research is unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of benefit and risk.	Strong recommendations, can apply to most patients in most circumstances without reservation. Clinicians should follow a strong recommendation unless a clear and compelling rationale for an alternative approach is present.
<b>1B.</b> Strong recommendation. Moderate quality evidence.	Benefits clearly outweigh risk and burdens, or vice versa	Evidence from randomized, controlled trials with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise), or very strong evidence of some other research design. Further research (if performed) is likely to have an impact on our confidence in the estimate of benefit and risk and may change the estimate.	Strong recommendation and applies to most patients. Clinicians should follow a strong recommendation unless a clear and compelling rationale for an alternative approach is present.
<b>1C.</b> Strong recommendation. Low quality evidence.	Benefits appear to outweigh risk and burdens, or vice versa	Evidence from observational studies, unsystematic clinical experience, or from randomized, controlled trials with serious flaws. Any estimate of effect is uncertain.	Strong recommendation, and applies to most patients. Some of the evidence base supporting the recommendation is, however, of low quality.
<b>2A.</b> Weak recommendation. High quality evidence.	Benefits closely balanced with risks and burdens	Consistent evidence from well performed randomized, controlled trials or overwhelming evidence of some other form. Further research is unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of benefit and risk.	Weak recommendation, best action may differ depending on circumstances or patients or societal values
<b>2B.</b> Weak recommendation. Moderate quality evidence.	Benefits closely balanced with risks and burdens, some uncertainty in the estimates of benefits, risks and burdens	Evidence from randomized, controlled trials with important limitations (inconsistent results, methodologic flaws, indirect or imprecise), or very strong evidence of some other research design. Further research (if performed) is likely to have an impact on our confidence in the estimate of benefit and risk and may change the estimate.	Weak recommendation, alternative approaches likely to be better for some patients under some circumstances
<b>2C.</b> Weak recommendation. Low quality evidence.	Uncertainty in the estimates of benefits, risks, and burdens; benefits may be closely balanced with risks and burdens	Evidence from observational studies, unsystematic clinical experience, or from randomized, controlled trials with serious flaws. Any estimate of effect is uncertain.	Very weak recommendation; other alternatives may be equally reasonable.

\*GR- Grade of Recommendation, LOE – Level of Evidence

\*\*Adapted from: UpToDate. Grading guide. No date. Available from:

<http://www.uptodate.com/home/about/policies/grade.html>; and Guyatt G, Gutterman D, Baumann MH, Addrizzo-Harris D, Hylek EM, Phillips B, Raskob G, Lewis SZ, Schünemann H. Grading strength of recommendations and quality of evidence in clinical guidelines: Report from an American College of Chest Physicians task force. Chest. 2006 Jan;129(1):174-81, originally adapted from the GRADE Working Group.

# Get Involved

1. Join the Network
2. Review the Guideline
3. Contribute clinical considerations & tools/resources

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