TCS News

Tobacco Cessation Information for All Mississippians, Including People with Disabilities

Cessation–Dollars and Sense for Mississippi Businesses

How much does tobacco use cost? Look beyond the obvious cost of tobacco products to the consumer's health. Then consider the cost of tobacco-related illnesses to Mississippi businesses:

- lower productivity
- missed work
- medical care
- long-term disability

Data show 51,647 Mississippians are unable to work because of smoking-related illness. Costs for Mississippi businesses add up to $360 million for missed work and $1.2 billion for lower productivity. Employer promoted cessation programs can save up to $6 for every $1 spent.

http://mstobaccodata.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/mtd-tobacco-report.pdf

Analysis prepared by Dr. Alan Barefield, Department of Agricultural Economics, Mississippi State University, from 2015 Tobacco Report: The Health and Economic Burden of Tobacco on Mississippi

E-cigarettes Increase Nicotine Exposure

Electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), including electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), increase nicotine exposure and are not safe alternatives to smoking. In early August, Dr. Mary Currier, Mississippi State Health Officer, joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in reminding Mississippians that ENDS and other devices should be considered drug delivery systems since nicotine is highly addictive.

"There is not enough information on the effects of using ENDS for us to ensure the health and safety of all Mississippians," said Dr. Currier. "We know more research on ENDS and similar products must still be done. Nicotine use is known to have adverse health effects, and preliminary studies show that e-cigarette use leads to cigarette consumption."

ENDS are used to heat liquid nicotine into a vapor which is inhaled. "Vaping" appeals to youth who have rapidly increased their use of ENDS since 2010. ENDS, including e-cigarettes, are not approved by the Food and Drug Administration. There have been more than 40 cases of nicotine exposure related to e-cigarettes in Mississippi in the last five years.

www.wtva.com/news/local/Report_Use_of_devices_such_as_e-cigarettes_increase_nicotine_exposure.html

Report by Zac Carlisle, WTVA, Tupelo, on use of devices such as e-cigarettes from August 9, 2016

Overall Smoking Rate Dropping; No Decline for People with Behavioral Health Conditions

"Behavioral health patients die from tobacco-related diseases at a much higher rate than the general population." David Zauche, a senior program manager at the Altarum Institute opened his health policy blog on August 9, 2016, with this alarming fact. The blog is titled "America's Number One Disparity?"

According to Zauche, the smoking rate of adults in the United

Smoking Rates for American Adults

— All Adults — Behavioral Health Patients
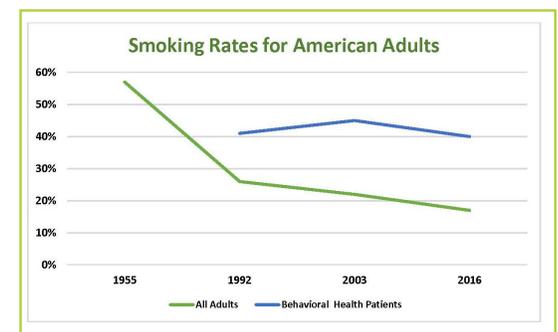
States is now under 17%, but people with mental illness or substance abuse consume

40% of all cigarettes. This population is more likely to die from tobacco–related illnesses than their behavioral health problems.

Zauche says the reasons for this sad fact are complex and include treatment apathy, policy shortcomings and the tobacco industry's involvement. He offers solutions to help people live smoke free.

http://altarum.org/health-policy-blog/america%E2%80%99s-number-one-health-disparity

From "America's Number One Health Disparity" published on the Altarum Institute's Health Policy Forum on August 9, 2016

"Brother, You're on My Mind"

Men don't like to admit they have trouble coping with life or that they are stressed out. But left untreated, depression and other mental illness can be deadly. Suicide is the third leading cause of death among young African-American men ages 15 to 24.

The National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity have launched *Brother, You're on My Mind: Changing the National Dialogue Regarding Mental Health Among African-American Men*, an initiative to start conversations about mental health.

The initiative will use a variety of activities to raise awareness of the mental health challenges associated with depression and the stress that affect African-American men. Omega chapters will work to host professional speakers at chapter meetings and distribute materials at key locations like barbershops and churches. Community forums will be hosted on mental health for men.

www.nimhd.nih.gov/docs/byomm_factsheet01.pdf

The National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities leads scientific research, including tobacco cessation research, to improve minority health and eliminate health disparities.

Seven Years of Product Regulation, Protection

The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act marked its seventh anniversary in June. Signed into law on June 22, 2009, the Tobacco Control Act

- restricts tobacco marketing and sales to youth;
- requires smokeless tobacco product warning labels;
- ensures "modified risk" claims are supported by scientific evidence; and
- requires disclosure of ingredients in tobacco products.

A "deeming rule" for the Act was finalized in May, extending the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) application of the Tobacco Control Act to all products meeting the definition of a tobacco product, including e-cigarettes, cigars, and hookah and pipe tobacco.

www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/default.htm

From "This Week in CTP" published June 30, 2016, by the Center for Tobacco Products

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