

Read on for announcements from the [Tobacco Control Network \(TCN\)](#) and our partners.

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TCN News

News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network

Partner Announcements

[CDC Releases Prevention Status Reports for All 50 States and Washington, D.C.](#)

CDC

CDC released the latest Prevention Status Reports (PSRs), which highlight states' progress on key health topics, including HIV, tobacco use, prescription drug overdose, alcohol-related harms, food safety, healthcare-associated infections, heart disease and stroke, motor vehicle injuries, teen pregnancy, nutrition, physical activity, and obesity. PSRs explain state trends and expand the use of evidenced-based policy and practice.

[Available Online: Recording of Warner Series Discussion with U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy](#)

Truth Initiative

Truth Initiative posted a video of the Feb. 25 Warner Series discussion featuring U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy. In his conversation with *USA Today* Medical Reporter Liz Szabo, Murthy touched on many points including vaccination, mental illness, walkable communities, and the public health successes of tobacco control. Murthy took questions from the audience and encouraged youth to continue to be a part of the fight against smoking.

*The biweekly **TCN News** provides a concise digest of tobacco control announcements to the Tobacco Control Network's membership base of tobacco control program managers and additional staff from each state, territory, and D.C., as well as our valued partners.*

Upcoming Events

[C. Everett Koop Unsung Heroes Award](#) – American Lung Association
Mar. 9|*Application Deadline*

[Beyond the Basics: Pharmacotherapy for Smoking Cessation](#) – Smoking Cessation Leadership Center
Mar. 14, 1-3 p.m. EST|*Registration Required*

[Waterpipes: A Public Workshop](#) – FDA Center for Tobacco Products
Silver Spring, MD
Mar. 17-18|*Registration*

[Available Online: Webinar on Menthol Policy](#)

Tobacco Control Legal Consortium (TCLC)

TCLC posted presentation slides and a recording of its Feb. 24 webinar “Regulating Menthol Tobacco Products: The Current Policy Landscape.” Presenters highlighted examples of Chicago’s ordinance restricting sales of menthol tobacco products within 500 feet of a school, and Minnesota’s efforts to reduce the use of menthol products and other flavored tobacco products through research.

[CDC Hosts “30 Smokefree Days” Event on Facebook to Encourage Smoking Cessation](#)

CDC

Starting on Mar. 1, CDC is hosting a month-long event on Facebook where it will be sharing daily quitting tips, inspirational messages, and exclusive content from the ongoing “Tips from Former Smokers” advertising campaign. This Facebook event also gives prospective quitters the opportunity to converse with other participants trying to quit.

State News

The Tobacco Control Network uses this section to reflect the great work occurring across states and territories in tobacco control. We encourage you to share useful tobacco control tools, programs, and resources your state has developed, as well as recent legislative achievements. If you would like to share your work, or nominate someone else to be recognized, please contact tcn@astho.org.

[California Assembly Approves Several Tobacco Control Measures \(CA\)](#) – *Los Angeles Times*. The California State Assembly passed a series of six tobacco control bills, including one that would raise the tobacco purchase age

Required

[67th Annual Meeting - Building Capital: Investing in the Future of Health Education](#) – Society for Public Health Education
Charlotte, NC
Mar. 30-Apr. 1 | *Registration Required*

[Biomarkers of Potential Harm: A Public Workshop](#) – FDA
Center for Tobacco Products
Silver Spring, MD
Apr. 4-5|*Registration Required*

[8th National Summit on Smokeless and Spit Tobacco](#) – Health Education Council
Albuquerque, NM
Apr. 18-20 | *Registration Required*

[Reduce Tobacco Use Conference 2016](#) – Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth
Arlington, VA
Apr. 25-26|*Save the Date*

[Emerging Science in State and Community Tobacco Control Policy and Practice](#) – State and Community Tobacco Control Research
Washington, D.C.
May 4, 1-4 p.m.
EST|*Registration Required*

[Annual Tobacco Documents Workshop: Putting the Tobacco Industry’s Words to Work for You](#) – University of California, San Francisco Center for Tobacco Control, Research and Evaluation
San Francisco, CA

from 18 to 21, and another that restricts the use of e-cigarettes in public places where combustible tobacco smoking is prohibited such as restaurants and theaters. A public health coalition called Save Lives California, which includes groups like the California Medical Association, the American Cancer Society, and the American Lung Association, helped advocate for these measures, which now move to the Senate.

[Massachusetts Lawmakers Propose Bill Raising the Cigarette Purchase Age to 21 \(MA\)](#) – *Boston Globe*. The Massachusetts Joint Committee on Public Health proposed a bill that would raise the smoking age to 21, and also restrict pharmacies from selling cigarettes. The bill includes e-cigarettes and similar electronic devices in its definition of tobacco products, and contains components of eight separate tobacco bills filed during the current legislative session.

[Maryland Arrests Four People for Illegally Smuggling Tobacco Products \(MD\)](#) – *ABC2*. Authorities separately arrested four men and confiscated a total of about 72,000 packs of cigarettes transported into Maryland from out of state. The cigarettes, worth about \$300,000 in total, were smuggled into the state of Maryland, which has a \$2 tax per pack of cigarettes. Enforcement experts estimate that smuggled cigarettes account for about 20 percent of all cigarette sales in Maryland due to differences in cigarette taxes in neighboring states.

In the News

[Baseball Toughens up on Chewing Tobacco as Ballparks Start Banning Substance](#) – *Associated Press*. Three cities with Major League Baseball (MLB) teams have restricted

May 6|*Registration Required*

[Global Tobacco Dependence Treatment Summit 2016](#) – Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Center and Global Bridges
Rochester, MN
May 23-24|*Registration Required*

[Call for Nominations: Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Section Award](#)
American Public Health Association Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Section
June 3|*Application Deadline*

[8th Biennial Cancer Survivorship Research Conference: Innovation in a Rapidly Changing Landscape](#) – American Cancer Society
Washington, D.C.
June 16-18|*Save the Date*

[2016 National Association of County and City Health Officials Annual Conference](#)
Phoenix, AZ
July 19-21|*Registration Required*

Funding Opportunities

[Exploratory Studies of Smoking Cessation Interventions for People with Schizophrenia \(R21/R33\)](#)

Deadline: Apr. 15

The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement is to generate and conduct

the use of smokeless tobacco in stadiums, and letters from both the MLB and the players' union are being posted in stadium clubhouses to serve as a reminder. Some players, like Red Sox Pitcher Clay Buckholz, are considering quitting as a result of these policies, and MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred says that players should plan to follow these policies. "Major league players are citizens," says Manfred. "Municipalities pass laws. We expect that our players will comply with those laws."

[R.J. Reynolds Appeals Lifting of Injunction on FDA Menthol Report](#) – *Winston-Salem Journal*. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. is appealing a federal court decision that lifted a previously installed injunction on an FDA menthol report. R.J. Reynolds first sued FDA in February of 2011, three weeks before the FDA Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee recommended that menthol cigarettes be removed from the market. Thirty percent of adults and 40 percent of youth smokers currently use menthol cigarettes, and menthol remains the only legally permitted cigarette flavoring allowed in the U.S.

[Study Links Thirdhand Smoke to Type 2 Diabetes](#) – *UCR Today*. A new study has concluded that exposure to thirdhand smoke – tobacco residue that sticks to surfaces – has been linked to Type 2 diabetes in mice. Other health issues linked to thirdhand smoke exposure in mice include liver and lung damage, and complications to the healing of wounds. Study authors say that these findings could greatly impact how tobacco smoke exposure is understood if any of these connections are confirmed in humans.

Research

preliminary tests of targeted smoking cessation treatments for individuals with schizophrenia. Smokers with schizophrenia who have co-occurring alcohol or substance abuse disorders are also a population of interest.

[Truth Initiative Announces Grant Opportunity for Smoke-Free Community Colleges](#)
Deadline: Apr. 29 or July 15

Truth Initiative is now accepting grant applications from community colleges to help them work towards comprehensive smoke-free policies. Community colleges that do not have a 100 percent smoke-free policy are eligible for a grant and technical assistance. The deadline to apply is Apr. 29 for a \$10,000 grant, or July 15 for a \$7,500 grant.

Job Listings

[Research Public Health Analyst - PhD](#)
[Center for Health Policy Science and Tobacco Research](#)
[Washington, D.C.](#)

[Health Program Manager III \(Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Manager\)](#)
[Alaska Department of Health and Social Services](#)
[Anchorage, AK](#)

[Post-Doctoral Fellow](#)
[ClearWay Minnesota](#)
[Minneapolis, MN](#)

[Randomized Controlled Trial Evaluation of Tweet2Quit: A Social Network Quit-Smoking Intervention](#) – *Tobacco*

Control. Key Findings: A cohort of 160 smokers was divided into an intervention group and a control group to test the efficacy of the Tweet2Quit program, in which participants received daily smoking cessation support over Twitter and text message for 100 days. All participants received nicotine patches, emails with online smoking cessation resources, and instructions to set a quit date within seven days. Researchers found that participants of the Tweet2Quit group (40%) were twice as likely as the control group (20%) to remain smoke-free after a 60-day follow-up period. Researchers comment that the low cost and the program's ease of scalability give it global applications as a smoking cessation intervention.

[Differences in Tobacco Product Use Among Past Month Adult Marijuana Users and Nonusers: Findings from the 2003–2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#) –

Nicotine & Tobacco Research. **Key Findings:** Researchers analyzed data from the 2011 and 2012 iterations of the annual National Survey on Drug Use and Health to assess differences in tobacco product use based on whether or not participants reported using marijuana. In this sample, 78.3 percent of marijuana users (blunts are included in this definition) reported using a tobacco product in the previous month, compared to 25.3 percent of non-marijuana users. Researchers concluded that tobacco use represents a significant comorbidity of marijuana use, especially in light of marijuana legalization and decriminalization in the United States.

[Cost-Effectiveness of Integrating Tobacco Cessation into Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Treatment](#) – *Nicotine & Tobacco Research.* **Key Findings:** A cohort of smoking veterans receiving care for post-traumatic stress disorder

[Tobacco Prevention & Control Director and Portfolio Lead Louisiana Public Health Institute New Orleans, LA](#)

[Cessation Manager The Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living \(TFL\) New Orleans, LA](#)

[Senior Associate for Tobacco and Cancer Prevention Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Alexandria, VA](#)

[Industry Documents Digital Library Manager University of California, San Francisco San Francisco, CA](#)

About the Tobacco Control Network

The TCN's mission is to improve the public's health by providing education and state-based expertise to tobacco prevention and control at the state and national levels.

The TCN is managed by the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) on behalf of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health.

About ASTHO

(PTSD) was randomized into two groups, one receiving smoking cessation care integrated into their PTSD treatment, and another getting referrals to a smoking cessation clinic. Measures of healthcare utilization, cost, and smoking cessation were collected over an 18-month follow-up period to assess cost-effectiveness. Integrated care cost \$1,286 per patient on average (leading to an 8.9% verified smoking abstinence rate), while referrals to standard care cost an average of \$551 (associated with a 4.5% abstinence rate). Researchers calculated that this represents a cost of \$32,257 per quality-adjusted life year for integrated care, meaning that this intervention is cost-effective but not as much as other smoking cessation programs.

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit association representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.

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