

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*

## Circulating Help Your Peers Requests

*These are the current circulating Help Your Peers requests.*

### Defining E-Cigarettes as Tobacco Products

**Deadline:** June 8, 2016

As California recently updated its state law to [define electronic smoking devices as tobacco products](#), they are seeking input or feedback from other states that have also added e-cigarettes and vaping to their state's tobacco definition. What pitfalls, challenges, or opportunities presented themselves that California should be aware of as they move forward? What lessons learned regarding implementation, enforcement, or updating local smoke-free policies should California be aware of as they move to quickly implement this new law?

*If you have any information to share or know someone who does, please reply to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org) and we will connect you with the person who submitted the request.*

## Partner Announcements

[Adult Cigarette Smoking Rates Down According to CDC](#)

*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

[A First Look at the Deeming Regulations: A Two-Part Webinar](#)

The Food and Drug Law Institute  
June 13, 2-2:45 p.m. EDT and  
June 14, 2-3:15 p.m.  
EDT|Registration Required

[Medicaid Tobacco Cessation Promotion: Promising Practices and Lessons Learned](#)

American Lung Association  
June 14, 2-3 p.m.  
EDT|Registration Required

[Parish Nurses: Partners in](#)

[Study](#)

*CDC*

Cigarette smoking rates among U.S. adults are declining, according to early release data from CDC's 2015 National Health Interview Survey. Adults aged 18 and over who were cigarette smokers in 2015 was 15.1 percent, down from 16.8 percent in 2014. The rate is a nearly ten-point decline since 1997, when 24.7 percent of American adults were cigarette smokers.

[New Report on Global Tobacco Epidemic and the Trans-Pacific Partnership](#)

*American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network*

On World No Tobacco Day, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network released the report "Protecting Children and Reducing the Global Tobacco Burden: Trading Tobacco Company Protections for Public Health," which describes the tobacco epidemic in the United States and around the world. The report also highlights the Trans-Pacific Partnership and how congressional approval of this trade and investment agreement can help save lives and protect youth through a provision that would prevent tobacco companies from challenging countries involved in the agreement on tobacco control efforts.

[View FDA's Webcasts About Biomarkers of Tobacco Use](#)

*FDA*

FDA Center for Tobacco Products has posted on their website archived webcasts from "Biomarkers of Potential Harm—A Public Workshop," which was held in April. The workshop addressed how to identify and use biomarkers to inform efforts for tobacco product regulation and also included a public comment session.

[View the "The Triangulum: Tobacco, Marijuana, and E-Cigarettes" Webcast](#)

*Tobacco-Related Disease Research Program (TRDRP)*

TRDRP's webcast from May 26 about the intersection of

[Tobacco Prevention & Control](#)

Texas Department of State Health Services

June 14, 3-4 p.m.

EDT|*Registration Required*

[Tobacco Policy,](#)

[Pharmacotherapy, and](#)

[Dentistry](#) – American Dental Association

June 16, 6-7 p.m.

EDT|*Registration Required*

[8<sup>th</sup> Biennial Cancer](#)

[Survivorship Research](#)

[Conference: Innovation in a Rapidly Changing Landscape](#) –

American Cancer Society  
Washington, D.C.

June 16-18|*Save the Date*

[Protecting Two Million People: A Deep Dive into Smokefree Multi-Unit Housing](#)

Tobacco Control Training Collaborative

June 22, 3-4:30 p.m.

EDT|*Registration Required*

[2016 National Association of County and City Health Officials Annual Conference](#)

Phoenix, AZ

July 19-21|*Registration*

*Required*

[Working with Public Housing Authorities: Addressing Smokefree Multi-Unit Housing Implementation Challenges](#)

Tobacco Control Training Collaborative

July 27, 3-4:30 p.m.

EDT|*Registration Required*

[2017 National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#)

Austin, TX

tobacco, marijuana, and e-cigarettes and the changing landscape of substance delivery is now available online. Speakers included researchers from University of California San Francisco, University of California Los Angeles, National Institute of Minority Health and Health Disparities, National Institute of Drug Abuse, and University of Michigan.

#### [FDA Offers Resources on Deeming Tobacco Rule](#)

FDA

Following the final rule extending authority to regulate all tobacco products, FDA has posted related available resources on its website. Resources on the web page explain the rule and link to accompanying documents including guidance for industry and business regarding compliance and applicable dates.

## 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](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

[Bill for Smoke-Free Beaches and Parks in New Jersey Moves Forward \(NJ\)](#) – CBS New York. The New Jersey Assembly and Senate approved a bill to initiate a smoke-free policy at public beaches and parks. The bill has been sent to Gov. Christie to sign. The bill, however, includes a provision that would allow towns to designate smoking on up to 15 percent of a beach.

March 22-24, 2017|*Save the Date*

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## Funding Opportunities

[Truth Initiative Announces Grant Opportunity for Smoke-Free Community Colleges](#)

**Deadline: July 15**

Truth Initiative is now accepting grant applications from community colleges to help these public organizations work towards comprehensive smoke-free policies.

Community colleges that do not have a 100% smoke-free policy are eligible for a grant and technical assistance. Interested community colleges should apply by July 15 to receive a \$7,500 grant.

[Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Calls for](#) Proposals for Research to Build Culture of Health

**Deadline: Applications accepted on a rolling basis**

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Evidence for Action program has an ongoing call for proposals to address gaps in knowledge, and test innovative programs, policies, and partnerships, in addition to evaluating measurements of health determinants and outcomes.

## Job Listings

[Program Specialist V](#)  
[Texas Department of State](#)

## In the News

[White House Removes Flavored E-Cigarette Language from FDA Deeming Rule](#) – *Reuters Health*. The White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) removed language from FDA’s rule extending tobacco regulation authority to include e-cigarettes, cigars, hookah, and pipe tobacco. FDA’s release originally included a rule that e-liquid manufacturers would have to submit an application for market authorization in order to continue selling their products, but OMB removed this rule and FDA’s scientific rationale for including this rule.

[Altria Sues FDA Over Restrictions on Using the Word “Mild”](#) – *Richmond Times Dispatch*. Altria Group Inc. has sued FDA over its newly implemented rules restricting use of the word “mild” on cigar and pipe tobacco products. Altria is the parent company of Philip Morris USA and also John Middleton Co., which sells the “Black & Mild” cigar brand. This rule is part of FDA’s expanded authority of tobacco products under its deeming rule. Altria argues that restricting its branding of this product violates its First and Fifth Amendment rights.

[Senator Sends Letter to FDA Asking for Clarity of New Rule’s Impact on E-cigarettes](#) – *Winston Salem Journal*. Sen. Ron Johnson, chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, sent a letter to FDA Commissioner Robert Califf requesting more information on how FDA’s expanded authority over tobacco products impacts e-cigarettes. In this letter, Sen. Johnson expresses concern over the cost of this rule on e-cigarette manufacturers, and asks Califf if regulations might change if scientific findings indicate that e-cigarettes are safer than combustible cigarettes.

[Health Services](#)  
[Austin, TX](#)

[Senior Research](#)  
[Implementation Science](#)  
[Fors Marsh Group](#)  
[Arlington, VA](#)

[Chief, Office of Tobacco](#)  
[Prevention and Cessation](#)  
[Arizona Department of Health](#)  
[Services](#)  
[Phoenix, AZ](#)

[Foundations Relations Advisor](#)  
[American Heart Association](#)  
[Dallas, TX](#)

[Grassroots Advocacy](#)  
[Specialist](#)  
[American Heart Association](#)  
[Marietta, GA](#)

[State and Community Policy](#)  
[Analyst](#)  
[American Heart Association](#)  
[Dallas, TX](#)

[Senior Evaluator – Experience](#)  
[in Tobacco Control Preferred](#)  
[Professional Data Analysts,](#)  
[Inc.](#)  
[Minneapolis, MN](#)

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

**About the  
Tobacco Control  
Network**

## Research

[Effectiveness of a Hospital-Initiated Smoking Cessation Program: Two-Year Health and Healthcare Outcomes – Tobacco Control](#). **Key Findings:** A study in Ontario, Canada evaluated the effectiveness of a hospital smoking cessation intervention compared to usual care in two hospitals. Researchers found that the intervention group experienced lower rates of all-cause readmissions, smoking-related readmissions, and all-cause emergency department visits throughout the study period. Study authors conclude that increased adoption of hospital-initiated smoking cessation interventions would improve patient health and reduce healthcare consumption.

[E-cigarette Curiosity Among U.S. Middle and High School Students: Findings from the 2014 National Youth Tobacco Survey – Preventive Medicine](#). **Key Findings:** Researchers used nationally representative data to examine predictors of curiosity of e-cigarette use. Among middle school and high school youth who had never used e-cigarettes, 25.8 percent reported curiosity about e-cigarettes. Low curiosity was associated with high levels of perceived harm, while high curiosity was associated with lower perceptions of harm. These findings can inform future interventions aimed at lowering youth curiosity about initiating e-cigarette use.

[Demographic, Mental Health, and Behavioral and Psychosocial Factors Associated with Cigarette Smoking Status Among Young Men Who Have Sex with Men: The P18 Cohort Study – LGBT Health](#). **Key Findings:** An analysis of smoking data among men who have sex with men (MSM) from the P18 Cohort Study found that smoking status was most significantly associated with school enrollment status, alcohol and marijuana use, and depression. In addition, researchers found that the odds of being a current and former smoker were higher among those reporting higher levels of affinity within the gay

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 a peer group of the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) on behalf of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health.

## About ASTHO

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.



Forward to Friend

community. Conclusions from this study could provide insight on tobacco cessation interventions focused on reaching the MSM community.

[Pictorial Cigarette Pack Warnings: A Meta-Analysis of Experimental Studies](#) – *Tobacco Control*. **Key Findings:** A meta-analysis of 37 studies encompassing 33,613 total study participants found that pictorial cigarette package warnings were significantly more effective than text only warnings in 12 of 17 effectiveness outcomes tested across studies. Included studies also indicated that compared to text only warnings, pictorial warnings elicited stronger negative attitudes towards smoking and were more effective in increasing intentions to not start smoking or to quit smoking.

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The MailChimp logo, featuring the word "MailChimp" in a white, cursive script font, centered within a grey rounded rectangular background.