

## **FACT SHEET: TOBACCO AND NEOPLASIA**

1. Smoking increases the risks for many cancers and is known as the cause of cancers in the respiratory tract, urinary bladder, pancreas, and kidneys.<sup>1</sup>
2. There is sufficient evidence to show the casual relationship between smoking and the following cancers: lung cancer; laryngeal cancer; oral cavity and pharyngeal cancer esophageal cancer; pancreatic cancer; renal cell, renal pelvis, and bladder cancer; cervical cancer; gastric cancer; and acute myeloid leukemia.<sup>1</sup>
3. Tobaccos smoke has more than 50 carcinogens, the most potent of which are polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and tobacco specific nitrosamines (TSNs).<sup>2</sup>
4. Women who are exposed to second hand smoke from their husbands are 1.2 times more likely to suffer from lung cancer.<sup>1</sup>
5. The evidence is suggestive to infer causal relationship between exposure to second hand smoking and breast cancer and nasal sinus cancer.<sup>1</sup>
6. The cause of lung cancer is tobacco smoking in as many as 90% of patients.<sup>3</sup>
7. The development of lung cancer is directly related to the number of cigarettes smoked, the length of smoking history, and the tar and nicotine content of the cigarettes, and is highest among current smokers and lowest among nonsmokers.<sup>4</sup>
8. Lung cancer risk increased by as much as 5 times in asbestos exposure.<sup>5</sup>
9. Non-smokers have a statistically significant greater risk of lung cancer if their spouses are smokers than if their spouses are non-smokers.<sup>6</sup>
10. Nondrinkers who smoked 25 or more cigarettes per day had a seven-fold increased risk of oral and pharyngeal cancer compared with nonsmokers.<sup>7</sup>
11. Alcohol when combined with cigarette smoke increases the risk of cancer in the upper aero-digestive tract significantly.<sup>8</sup>
12. Smoking has been shown to increase the risk of cancers of the uterine cervix, urinary bladder, and penis.<sup>9</sup>
13. Cigarette smoking, both past and present, is responsible for approximately 20% of kidney cancer cases among men, and for 10% of cases among women.<sup>10</sup>
14. Smokers' under cancer treatment are at increased risk of experiencing postoperative complications, such as delayed wound healing, and pulmonary and cardiovascular complications, as compared to non-smokers or former smokers. It also affects radiation therapy adversely.<sup>11</sup>
15. The longer the interval between smoking cessation and initiation of cancer treatment, the better the prognosis.<sup>12</sup>
16. Ten to 15 years after giving up smoking, the ex-smoker faces the same low risk of developing cancer of the upper digestive tract, the lungs, the pancreas, and the urinary tract as the nonsmoker.<sup>13</sup>

### **References:**

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