

# The ITC Project: Evaluating the Impact of Tobacco Control Policies—Recent Findings on Health Warnings, Plain Packaging, and Canada's Menthol Ban

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Center for Research on Flavored Tobacco Products (CRoFT) Seminar, Univ of Rochester | July 13, 2020



#### **Outline**

- The global tobacco epidemic and the power of population interventions: policies and regulations
- WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)
- The need for evidence systems to evaluate and understand the impact of policies
- ITC Project: evidence system for policy evaluation
- Graphic health warnings
- Plain packaging
- Menthol ban in Canada
- Present/future: new nicotine products



#### Global Tobacco Epidemic

"Tobacco is the most effective agent of death ever developed and deployed on a worldwide scale."

John Seffrin, Past President,
 American Cancer Society

- Over 1 billion tobacco users in the world
- Close to 7 million deaths per year
- ◆ 20<sup>th</sup> century: 100M deaths
- ◆ 21<sup>st</sup> century: 1 billion deaths
- Burden: shifting to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)
- NOT just a health problem. Total economic cost of smoking = US\$1.4 trillion, equal to 1.8% of global GDP

#### Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)

- Legally binding international treaty: first under the WHO
- ◆ Came into force in Feb 2005; now ratified by 181 countries
- Multisectoral: whole-of-government approach
- Includes broad range of tobacco control policies:
  - Pictorial warnings (Article 11)
  - Comprehensive smoke-free laws (Article 8)
  - Higher taxes to reduce demand (Article 6)
  - Bans/restrictions on marketing (Article 13)
  - Support for cessation (Article 14)
  - Measures to reduce illicit trade (Article 15; now a treaty)
  - Tobacco product regulation (Articles 9 and 10)
- ◆ Tobacco industry must be prevented from influencing policies and measures (Article 5.3)
- ◆ Greatest disease prevention initiative in history





## Has the FCTC had an impact?



#### Impact Assessment of the WHO FCTC



Conference of the Parties to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

Seventh session Delhi, India, 7-12 November 2016 **Provisional agenda item 5.2** 

FCTC/COP/7/6 27 July 2016

#### Impact assessment of the WHO FCTC:

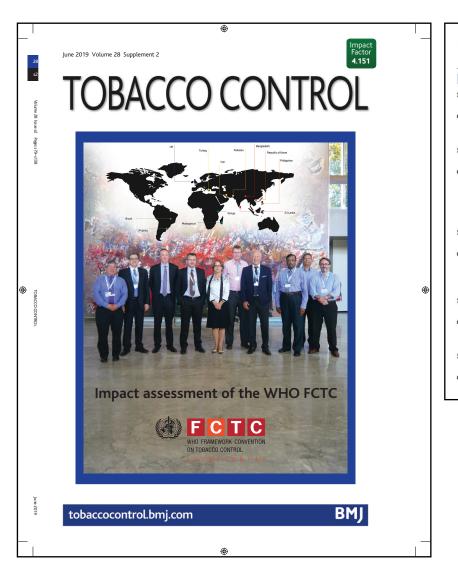
Report by the Expert Group



- (1) that an impact assessment of the WHO FCTC will be conducted, under the guidance of the Bureau, and as outlined under option A in paragraph 27 of document FCTC/COP/6/15;
- (2) that the purpose of the impact assessment should be to assess and examine the impact of the WHO FCTC on implementation of tobacco control measures and on the effectiveness of its implementation in order to assess the impact of the Convention as a tool for reducing tobacco consumption and prevalence after its first 10 years of operation;
- Global evidence review of 17 FCTC articles (ITC Project)
- Country missions to 12 FCTC Parties
- Other external reports
- Report presented at COP7 (Nov 2016; Delhi)



#### Impact Assessment Supplement in Tobacco Control



#### **Contents**

#### Impact assessment of the WHO FCTC

**\$79** Foreword by the Secretariat of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

V L da Costa e Silva

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Convention on Tobacco Control: introduction, general findings and discussion

P Puska, M Daube, WHO FCTC Impact Assessment Expert Group

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**s97** Analysis of Article 6 (tax and price measures to reduce the demand for tobacco products) of the WHO

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control

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6 Tobacco Control in defending legal challenges to tobacco control measures

S Y Zhou, I D Liberman, E Ricafort

s119 Impact of the WHO FCTC over the first decade: a

6 global evidence review prepared for the Impact Assessment Expert Group

I Chung-Hall, L Craig, S Gravely, N Sansone, G T Fong

s129 Impact of the WHO FCTC on tobacco control:

perspectives from stakeholders in 12 countries

OPEN ACCESS L. Craig, G. T. Fong, J. Chung-Hall, P. Puska, for the WHO FCTC Impact Assessment Expert Group

## Implementation of key demand-reduction measures of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and change in smoking prevalence in 126 countries: an association study

Gravely et al.:
Published March 2017
in Lancet Public Health

Shannon Gravely, Gary A Giovino, Lorraine Craig, Alison Commar, Edouard Tursan D'Espaignet, Kerstin Schotte, Geoffrey T Fong

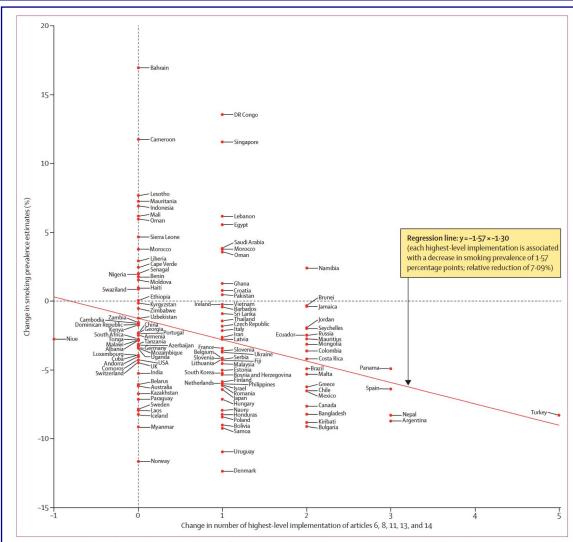


Figure 2: Relation between change in the number of five key WHO FCTC demand-reduction measures implemented at the highest level between 2007 and 2014 (x-axis) and change in smoking prevalence between 2005 and 2015 (y-axis)

- Analysis of WHO data from 126 countries
- Predictor: number of highestlevel implementations of key demand-reduction FCTC policies between 2007 and 2014
- Outcome: WHO smoking prevalence trend estimates from 2005 to 2015 (first decade of the WHO FCTC)
- Results: Each additional highest-level implementation associated with 1.57 percentage point decrease in smoking rate (7.09% relative decrease)

#### The WHO FCTC works...

...if implemented at the highest level



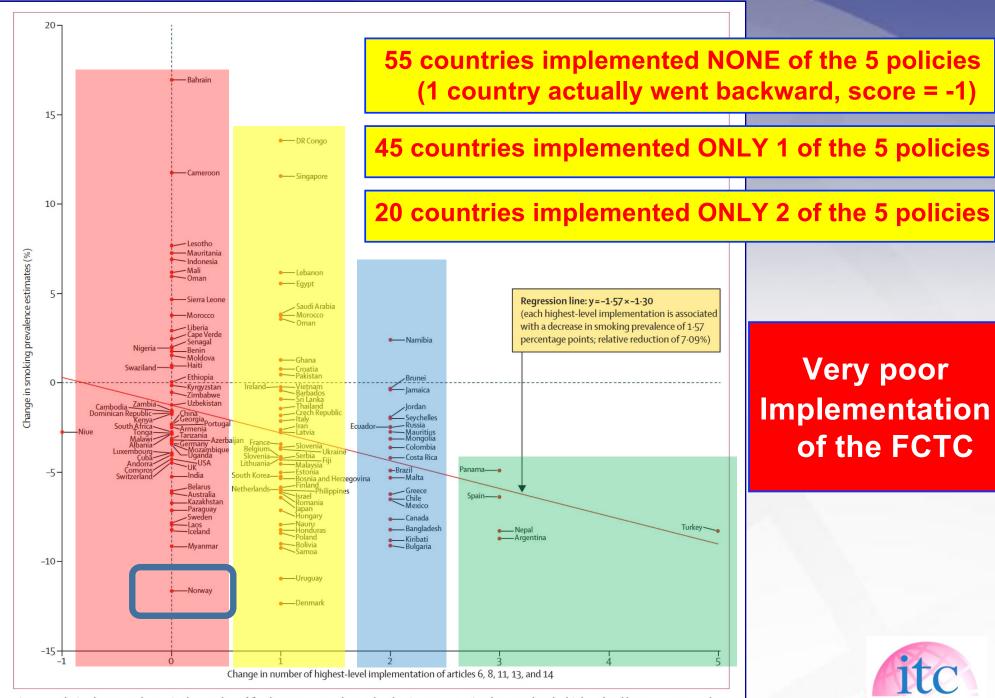


Figure 2: Relation between change in the number of five key WHO FCTC demand-reduction measures implemented at the highest level between 2007 and 2014 (x-axis) and change in smoking prevalence between 2005 and 2015 (y-axis)

Very poor **Implementation** of the FCTC



WHO Region	Number of countries	Number of Countries with data	(G) Smoking Prevalence in 2005	(H) Number of Smokers in 2005	(S) Smoking Prevalence in 2015	(T) Number of Smokers in 2015	Additional reduction of smokers that COULD have been achieved if countries had implemented all 5 key FCTC demand-reduction policies by 2014	Percentage reduction that COULD have been achieved
African	46	27	11.7	33,530,500	11.8	45,059,674	11,408,938	25.32%
American	34	19	21.3	126,754,699	16.5	113,915,520	26,430,049	23.20%
Eastern Mediterranean	22	9	18.8	45,843,176	20.6	63,870,884	11,800,955	18.48%
European	53	45	31.6	221,573,786	26.8	195,726,817	55,158,655	28.18%
South East Asian	11	8	20.4	231,976,236	16.4	224,981,887	76,438,021	33.98%
Western Pacific	27	18	28.3	385,183,712	25.4	377,517,020	133,593,712	35.39%
WORLD	193	126	24.2	1,044,862,108	19.0	1,021,071,802	314,830,330	30.83%

If all countries had implemented all five key FCTC demandreduction policies, then tremendous additional reduction in smokers COULD have been achieved:

World: 315M fewer smokers (31% reduction)

EUR: 55M fewer smokers (28% reduction)

WPR: 134M fewer smokers (35% reduction)

Stronger and more accelerated FCTC implementation can lead to tremendous gains in global health

In the second decade of the FCTC:
Need to strengthen and accelerate
implementation of the treaty.



### **COP8: Pivoting toward implementation**



#### ◆ Global Strategy to Accelerate Tobacco Control:

- First-ever strategic plan for the FCTC
- Linked to the broader target of reducing global tobacco prevalence by 30% by 2025
- Potential for fund-raising, enhance international cooperation

#### **◆ Implementation Review Mechanism:**

 Review of implementation reports submitted by Parties to the Secretariat every 2 years



## What evidence-gathering systems are in place to move the FCTC and tobacco control forward?

- Treaty monitoring: what are the parties doing in their implementation obligations?
  - WHO: Global Tobacco Control Report
  - Other monitoring efforts by Civil Society
- Surveillance: what is the <u>prevalence</u> of tobacco use and of key tobacco-relevant behaviours?
  - Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) in 16 LMICs
  - National surveillance systems



#### **Tobacco Evidence Systems**

FCTC			
Ratification	FCTC Policy Implementation	FCTC Policy Impact	Tobacco Prevalence
Systems	Policy Monitoring Systems	Impact Evaluation Systems	Surveillance Systems
	FCTC Reports, GTCR, Clvil Society	ITC Project	GATS, STEPS, country systems
Central Question	What policies have been implemented?	What is the impact of the policies?	What is tobacco prevalence?
Evidence Source	Legislation, reports from stakeholders	Individuals from the population	Individuals from the population
Measures & analysis	Legislative analysis of strength/weakness	Measures of tobacco use, SHS exposure, policy-relevant measures of impact, mediators of behavior	Measures of tobacco use, SHS exposure

Tobacco-Related Morbidity and Mortality





## The International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project (the ITC Project)





**Ireland** 



China



**France** 



**Brazil** 



Zambia



**United States** 



**Thailand** 



**Uruguay** 



**Germany** 



**Mauritius** 



Kenya



**Australia** 



Malaysia



**Mexico** 



**Netherlands** 



**Bhutan** 



**Abu Dhabi** 



**United Kingdom** 



Republic of Korea



**New Zealand** 



**Bangladesh** 



India



Japan



Greece



Hungary



**Poland** 



Romania



**Spain** 

### **Objectives of the ITC Project**

- ◆ To conduct rigorous evaluation studies to measure effectiveness and impact of FCTC policies.
  - Are pictorial warnings more effective than text-only?
  - Do higher cigarette taxes lead to lower smoking rates?
  - What kind of enforcement is necessary for smoke-free laws to work? Do smokers support smoke-free laws?
- To compare the impact of FCTC policies across countries
- ◆ To communicate ITC findings to policymakers, governments, advocates, and other stakeholders to support stronger and swifter implementation of evidence-based policies
- To build capacity for tobacco control research, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs)

#### ITC Project: 15th WCTOH (Singapore, 2012)



65 of our 100+ investigators and staff from 17 ITC countries



# China

# Zambia

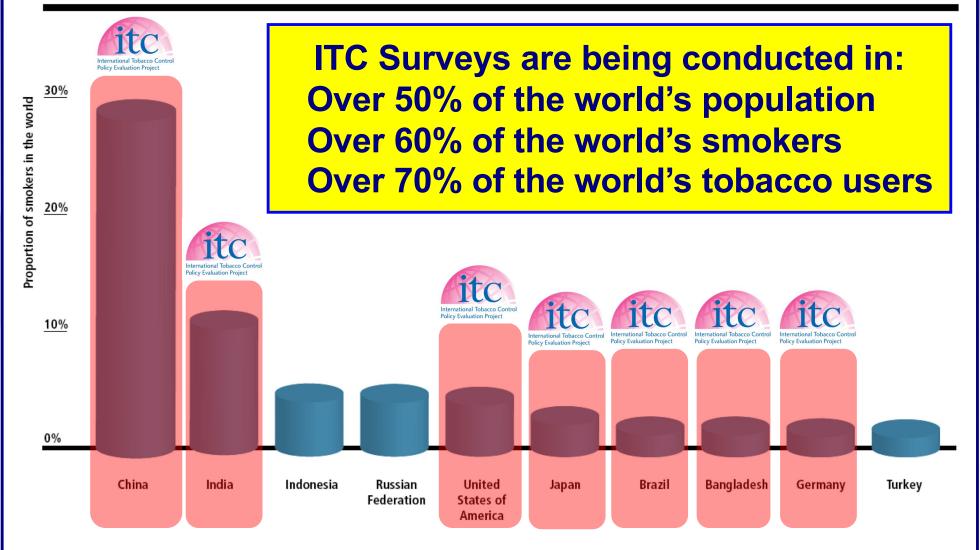


### ITC is a Global Project...



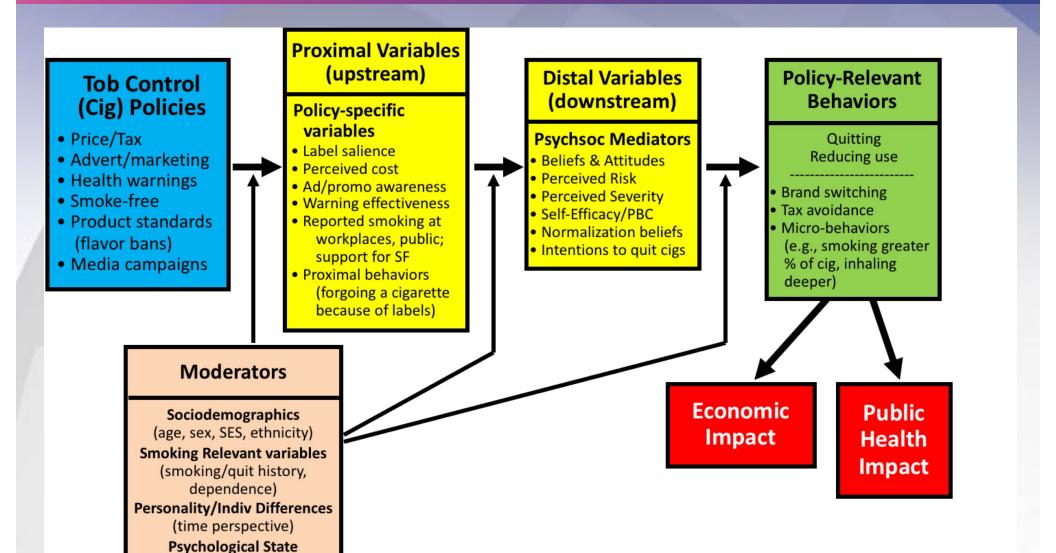


## NEARLY TWO THIRDS OF THE WORLD'S SMOKERS LIVE IN 10 COUNTRIES



Source: The number of smokers per country was estimated using adjusted prevalence estimates (see Technical Note II and Appendix III). A limitation of this approach is that adjusted estimates used to estimate the number of smokers are sometimes derived from limited country data, and for some countries large adjustments are needed. In these cases the adjusted estimates can be different from actual surveys reported by countries. Brazil prevalence data were obtained from VIGITEL 2006.

#### ITC Conceptual Model: from TC policies to impact



(stress, depression)

Proximal social environment (cig smoking by friends, family)(VNP use by friends,

family)

This model is used to create/select all of the measures included in the ITC surveys



#### **PATH Conceptual Model (from ITC)** Figure 1-2. General conceptual model for the effects of tobacco control regulations Conceptual Model for Effects of Tobacco Control Regulations **Proximal Variables** Regulation-(Upstream) Relevant **Distal Variables Behaviors** Regulation-specific (Downstream) variables Quitting Label salience Beliefs. Reducina Perceived expense Attitudes, Regulations -Ad/prom. Awareness Perceived Risk, Brand switching Perceived costs Perceived Severity, Tax avoidance Awareness of / Self-Efficacy/PBC · Micro behaviors acceptability of Normalization beliefs (e.g., smoking alternative products greater % of cig, Proximal behaviors inhaling deeper) (noticing, reading, forgoing, etc.) Moderators **Economic** Public Impact Smoking History Health Environ. Exposure **Impact** Age, Gender SES Time Perspective



## **Content of the ITC Surveys**

Surveillance content

Mixed Surveillance and policy content

Unique ITC
Content:
150+ Qs
focusing on
policy impact

Surveillance content

Content Domain	Number
	of Qs¤
Smoking History and Frequency  → Age started, 100 cigs,	<b>7</b> ¤
Smoking Behaviour (current) and Dependence   → Cigs/day, time to first, perceived addiction   □	<b>7</b> ¤
Quitting: ever tried, most recent attempt   → - Duration of last attempt, planning vs. spontaneous,   □	<b>6</b> ¤
Quitting: Beliefs, efficacy, intentions, motivation, reasons for   → − Perceived role of policies   ✓	<b>21</b> ¤
Knowledge: health effects, constituents  → - Health conditions (e.g., lung cancer, stroke, impotence), role of nicotine  □	<b>22</b> ¤
Health Warnings  → - Noticing, thinking about health risks, motivate quitting, emotional reaction   —	13¤
Anti-smoking campaigns  → - Noticing in various channels, perceived impact	<b>14</b> ¤
Cigarette brand  → - Choice, history, perceptions, last purchase: size, price paid  □	35¤
Light/Mild and other supposedly reduced harm products   → — Perceptions of brand, relative risk	<b>7</b> ¤
Cessation assistance   → - Physician mention, type of assistance sought, effectiveness   □	19¤
ETS and Smoke-Free policies   → Personal policies (home, car), restaurants, bars, workplace (prevalence/support)  □	<b>53</b> ¤
Psychosocial beliefs about smoking (mediators) and moderators	<b>27</b> ¤
Advertising/Promotion	25¤
Tobacco industry beliefs and government role in TC beliefs   → − Trust in industry, need for regulation, should govt do more?  □	<b>8</b> ¤
Individual difference variables □  → Depression, time perspective, rebelliousness □	<b>18</b> ¤
Demographics   → Age, marital status (also whether partner smokes), income, education   □	13¤
TOTAL NUMBER OF QUESTIONS (MAXIMUM)	<b>272</b> ¤

Throughout the policy sections there are measures relevant to monitoring



#### ITC China Supplement in Tobacco Control (Oct 2010)

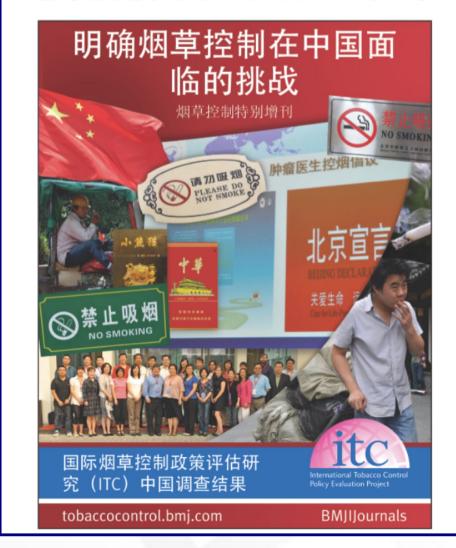
October 2010 Volume 19 Supplement 2

## TOBACCO CONTROL



October 2010 Volume 19 Supplement 2

## TOBACCO CONTROL



#### **ITC Economics Supplements**

March 2014 Volume 23 Supplement 1 TOBACCO CONTROL The Economics of Tobacco Control: Evidence from the International Tobacco Control (ITC) Policy Evaluation Project Guest Editor: John A. Tauras BMJ tobaccocontrol.bmj.com

July 2013 Volume 22 Issue 4 TOBACCO CONTROL The Economics of Tobacco Control (Part 2): Evidence from the International Tobacco Control (ITC) Policy Evaluation Project need these dimensions (width and height) of this Guest Editor: Corné van Walbeek BMJ tobaccocontrol.bmj.com

**March 2014** 

**July 2015** 

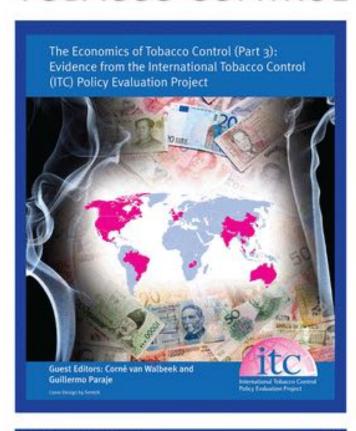


## ITC Third Economics Supplement

May 2019 Volume 28 Supplement 1



#### TOBACCO CONTROL



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#### **Editorial**

Economics of tobacco control (part 3): evidence from the ITC Project

"Cvan Walbeek, G Paraje

#### **Research papers**

- Association between tobacco prices and smoking onset: evidence from the TCP India Survey C Shang, F J Chaloupka, P C Gupta, M S Pednekar, G T Fone
- Individualised tobacco affordability in the UK 2002–2014: findings from the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project T R Partos, J R Branston, R Hiscock, A B Gilmore, A McNeill
- s20 Trend in the affordability of tobacco products in Bangladesh: findings from the ITC Bangladesh Surveys

N Nargis, M Stoklosa, J Drope, G T Fong, A C K Quah, P Driezen, C Shang, F J Chaloupka, A K M G Hussain

s31 Association between tax structure and cigarette consumption: findings from the International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation (ITC) Project C Shang, H M Lee, F J Chaloupka, G T Fong, M Thompson, R J O'Connor

#### May 2019 Volume 28 Issue S1

- S37 The Impact of Income and Taxation in a Price-Tiered Cigarette Market: findings from the ITC Bangladesh Surveys I Huq, N Nargis, D Lkhagvasuren, AKM G Hussain, G T Fong
- s45 Price, tax and tobacco product substitution in Zambia: findings from the ITC Zambia Surveys
  M Stoklosa, F Goma, N Nargis, J Drope, G Chelwa, Z Chisha, G T Fong
- **s53** Tobacco taxation, illegal cigarette supply and geography: findings from the ITC Uruguay Surveys D Curti, C Shang, F J Chaloupka, G T Fong
- s61 Does free or lower cost smoking cessation medication stimulate quitting? Findings from the International Tobacco Control (ITC) Netherlands and UK Surveys F A van den Brand, G E Nagelhout, K Hummel, M C Willemsen, A McNeill, O C P van Schayck
- s68 Impact of China National Tobacco Company's 'Premiumization' Strategy: longitudinal findings from the ITC China Surveys (2006–2015)

  S S Xu, S Gravely, G Meng, T Elton-Marshall,
  RJ O'Connor, A C K Quah, G Feng, Y Jiang, G J Hu,
  G T Fong

#### **PostScript**

s77 Acknowledgement



#### **ITC Project**

## ITC Experimental Studies

Experimental studies on the impact of specific features of health warnings

7 countries: Mexico, US, China, India, Germany, South Korea, Bangladesh

#### **ITC Surveys**

Longitudinal cohort surveys of tobacco users (smokers, smokeless users) and non-smokers to measure impact of tobacco control policies, regulations, and other interventions

Being conducted in 29 countries

#### ITC Tobacco Product Project

Collecting and analyzing leading cigarette brands in 20 countries (linked to ITC Surveys) to assess and evaluate physical characteristics of tobacco products and to understand the relation between design and consumer perceptions, smoking topography, impact on biomarkers of exposure



# **Evaluating FCTC Policies: Graphic Health Warnings**

#### Graphic Warnings in the US: Second attempt

#### FDA Proposes New Health Warnings for Cigarette Packs and Ads

Using new text statements and color images, the agency is poised to fill gaps in the public's understanding of cigarette smoking's negative health consequences.







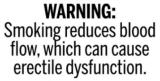
















WARNING: Smoking causes bladder cancer, which can lead to bloody urine.



**WARNING:** Smoking reduces blood flow to the limbs, which can require amputation.



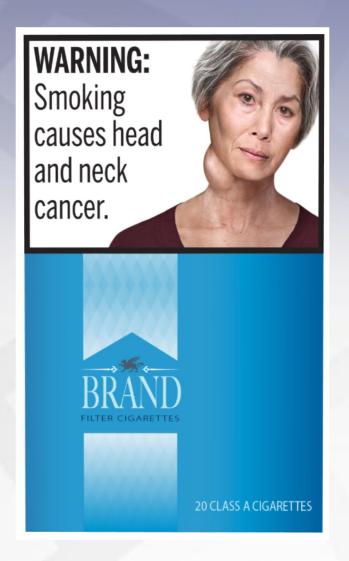
WARNING: Smoking causes type 2 diabetes, which raises blood sugar.













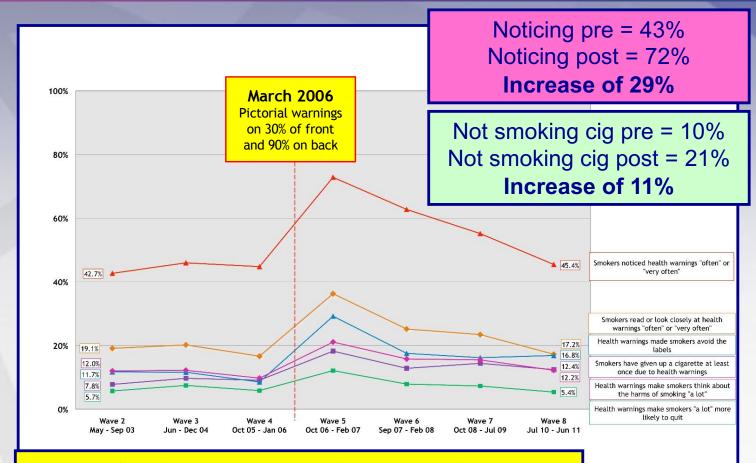
#### **Measures of Effectiveness for Health Warnings**

WHO FCTC Article 11 Guidelines	Current	Proposed
Large, clear, visible, and legible	X	<b>✓</b>
Includes full color pictures	X	<b>✓</b>
Covers at least 50% of pack	X	<b>✓</b>
Top of pack	X	<b>✓</b>
Front and back of pack	X	<b>✓</b>
Country's principal language	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>
Rotated periodically	X	<b>✓</b>
Provides advice about cessation	X	X
Ban on misleading descriptors	X	<b>√</b>

#### Australia: March 2006 (30% front, 90% back)







#### 3 million smokers in Australia: After the introduction of pictorial warnings:

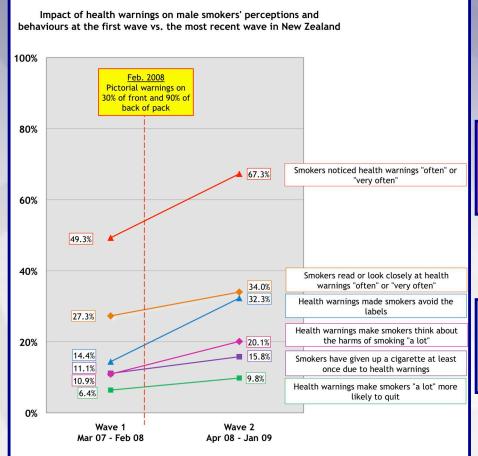
- 870,000 more smokers noticed the warnings
- 330,000 more smokers reported not smoking a cigarette because of the warnings



#### New Zealand: February 2008 (30% front, 90% back)







Noticing pre= 49.3% Noticing post= 67.3% Increase of 18.0%

Forgoing cig pre = 10.9% Forgoing cig post = 15.8% Increase of 4.9%

## 650,000 smokers in New Zealand After the introduction of pictorial warnings:

- 117,000 more smokers noticed the warnings
- 30,550 more smokers reported forgoing a cigarette because of the warnings



## The lower effectiveness of text-only health warnings in China compared to pictorial health warnings in Malaysia

Tara Elton-Marshall, <sup>1,2</sup> Steve Shaowei Xu, <sup>3</sup> Gang Meng, <sup>3</sup> Anne C K Quah, <sup>3</sup> Genevieve C Sansone, <sup>3</sup> Guoze Feng, <sup>4</sup> Yuan Jiang, <sup>4</sup> Pete Driezen, <sup>3</sup> Maizurah Omar, <sup>5</sup> Rahmat Awang, <sup>5</sup> Geoffrey T Fong <sup>3,6,7</sup>

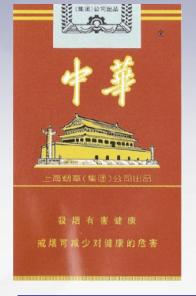
Tobacco Control (2015); 24: iv6-iv13.

In 2008, China & Malaysia had the same poor text-only warnings...

2009 China stayed text-only





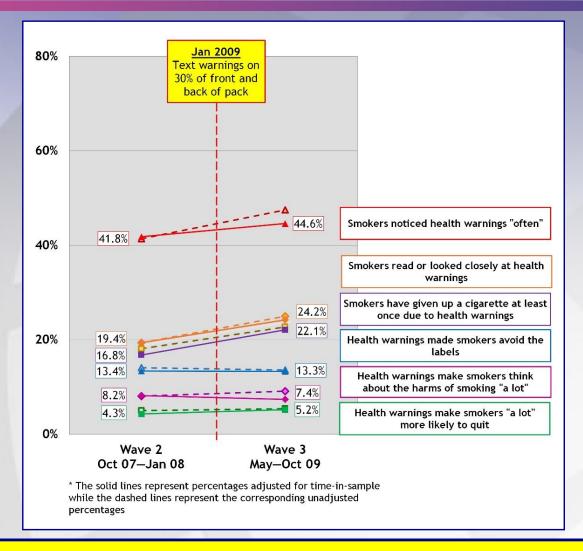


2009 Malaysia went to graphic





#### ITC Evaluation: China's Jan 2009 Text-Only Revision



Noticing pre = 41.8% Noticing post = 44.6% Increase of 2.8%

Forgoing cig pre = 16.8% Forgoing cig post = 22.1% Increase of 5.3%

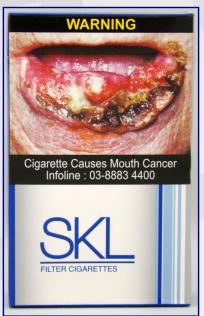
#### **About 300 million smokers in China:**

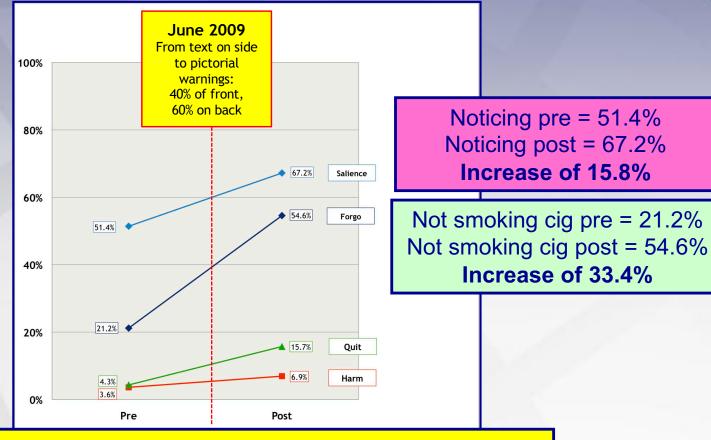
- 8.4 million more smokers noticed the warnings
- 15.9 million more smokers reported forgoing a cigarette because of the warnings



## Malaysia: June 2009 (40% front, 60% back)







# 3.6 million smokers in Malaysia After the introduction of pictorial warnings:

- 569,000 more smokers noticed the warnings
- 1,202,400 more smokers reported not smoking a cigarette because of the warnings



## If China implemented Malaysia's graphic warnings...

- 9.5% x 300M = **28.5 million more smokers** would have **noticed the warnings often**
- 8.4% x 300M = **25.2 million more smokers** would have read the warnings closely
- 4.4% x 300M = 13.2 million more smokers would have reported that the warnings made them think about the health risks of smoking
- 7.7% x 300M = 23.1 million more smokers would have reported that the warnings made them think about quitting
- 17.6% x 300M = **52.8 million more smokers** would have reported that the **warnings had stopped them from smoking a cigarette at least once**

# Release of WHO/ITC China Warnings Report April 2014







# ITC National Reports: China (Dec 2012)

The International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project
ITC China Project Report
FINDINGS FROM THE WAVE 1 TO 3 SURVEYS (2006-2009)







WATERLOO

**DECEMBER 2012** 

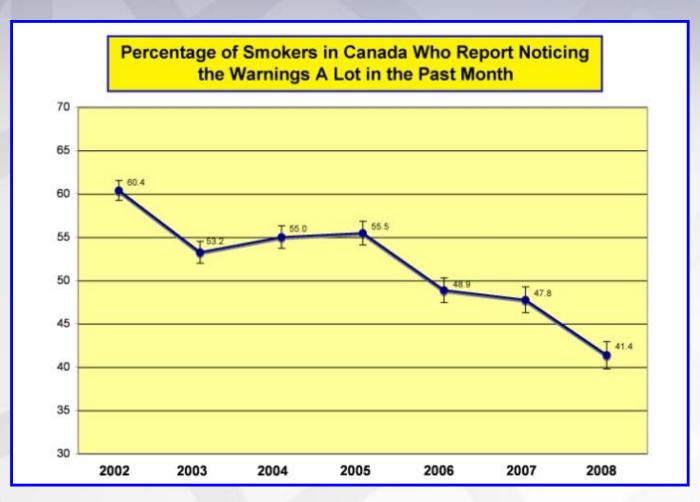


China Report released in Beijing in Dec 2012 at the Chinese Communist Party School and at the China NCD Forum



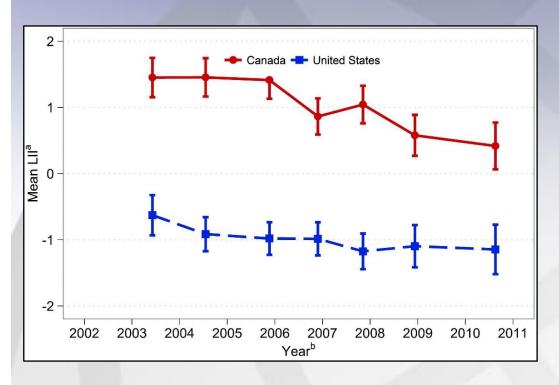
## Before the 2012 Revision: significant wear-out

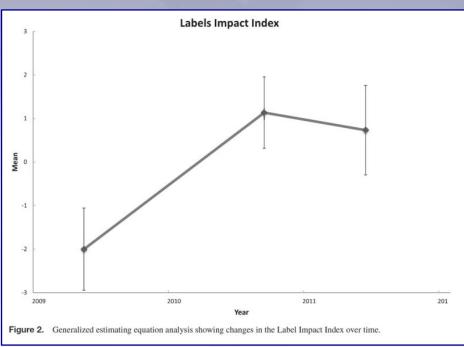
ITC Canada Survey: From 2002 to 2008, every indicator of label impact declined





## Warning label wear-out





**Canada and US (2003-2011)** 

**Mauritius (2009-2011)** 



# **2012 Canadian warnings**



#### "I wish I had never started smoking."

"I was diagnosed with cancer of the larynx when I was 48. I had to have my vocal cords removed, and now I breathe through a hole in my throat. - Lerov

> Need help to quit? 4 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/quit



#### "Just breathing is torture."

"Smoking caused my lungs to collapse four times before I was diagnosed with emphysema at 42. Without my oxygen tank, it feels like I'm breathing through a straw."

Need help to quit? 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/quit





#### WARNING

#### Cigarettes are a major cause of heart disease.

Smokers are up to 4 times more likely to develop heart disease than non-smokers.

You can quit. We can help. 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/quit



#### WARNING

#### **Tobacco smoke** hurts everyone.

Infants who are exposed to tobacco smoke are at greater risk of dying from **Sudden Infant Death** Syndrome (SIDS).

Need help to quit? 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/quit



#### WARNING

#### RISK OF BLINDNESS

Smoking may increase your risk of age-related macular degeneration, a condition that can cause permanent vision loss. There is no effective treatment in most cases.



#### WARNING

#### ORAL CANCER

These white spots are a form of oral cancer caused primarily by smoking. Even if you survive, you may lose part or all of your tongue.

Need help to quit? 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/guit

ou can quit. We can help. 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/quit





#### This is what dying of lung

Barb Tarbox died at 42 of lung cancer caused





bladder cancer.

#### WARNING Cigarettes cause

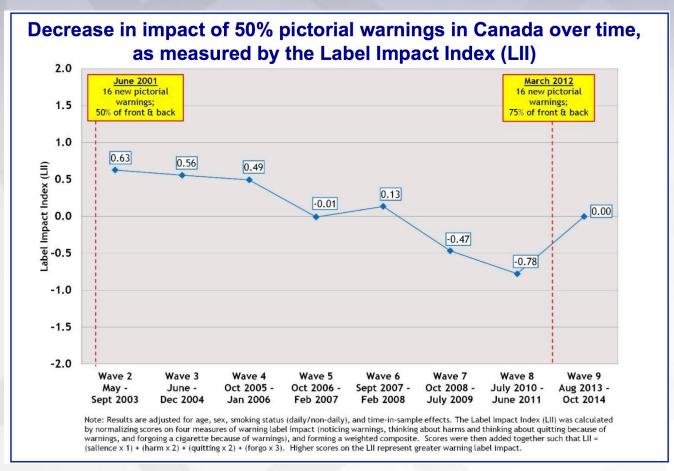
Toxic chemicals in tobacco smoke damage the lining of the bladder causing cancer. The most common sign is blood in the urine.

You have the will. There is a way. 1-866-366-3667 gosmokefree.gc.ca/quit



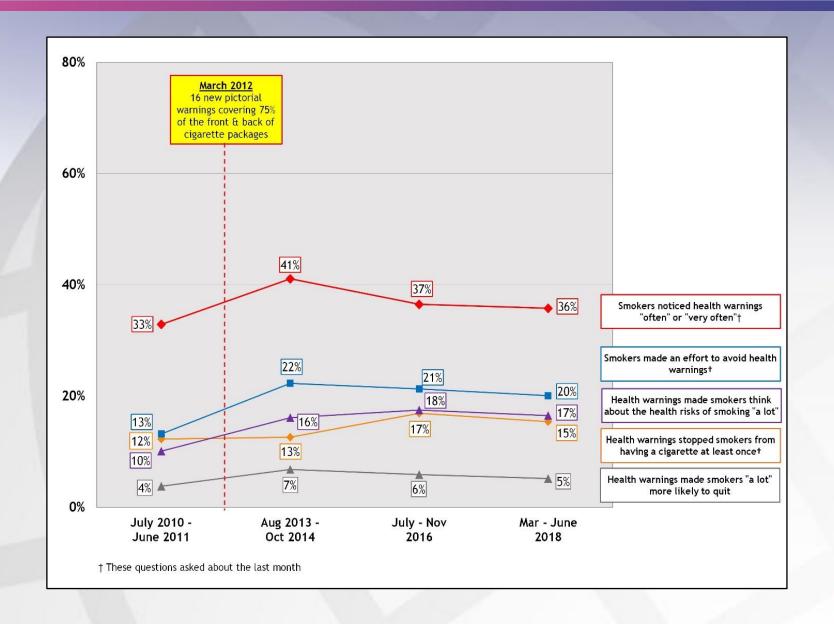
# Impact of 2012 revision of warnings

 ITC survey: Steady decline in warning impact from 2003-2011, but then a substantial increase with the 2012 revision.



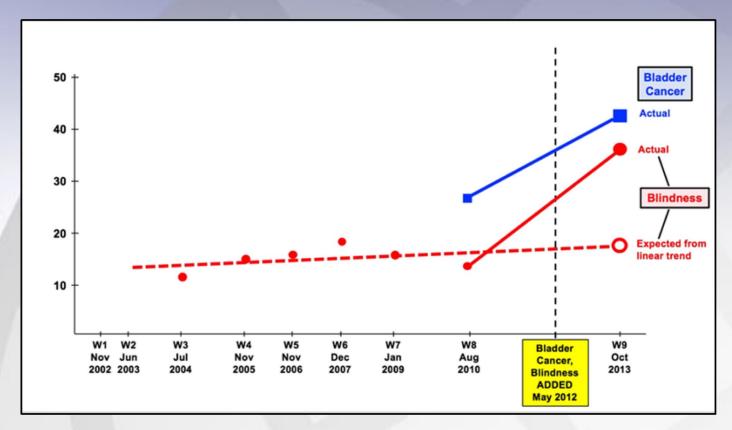


# The effects of the 2012 warnings on indicators of HW impact 2013 to 2018





# The effects of ADDING a health harm to the health warnings on knowledge/awareness





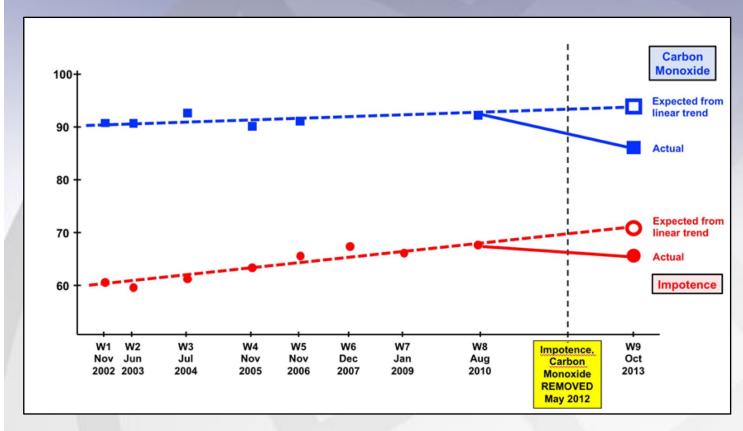


Green et al. Tobacco Control (2019)

**Adding** new health messages on effect of smoking on blindness and bladder cancer **increased awareness** of these health effects.



# The effects of REMOVING a health harm to the health warnings on knowledge/awareness





#### DON'T POISON US

WARNING: Second-hand smoke contains carbon monoxide, ammonia, formaldehyde, benzo[a]pyrene and nitrosamines. These chemicals can harm your children.

Health Canada



#### WARNING

#### TOBACCO USE CAN MAKE YOU IMPOTENT

Cigarettes may cause sexual impotence due to decreased blood flow to the penis. This can prevent you from having an erection.

Health Canada

Green et al. Tobacco Control (2019)

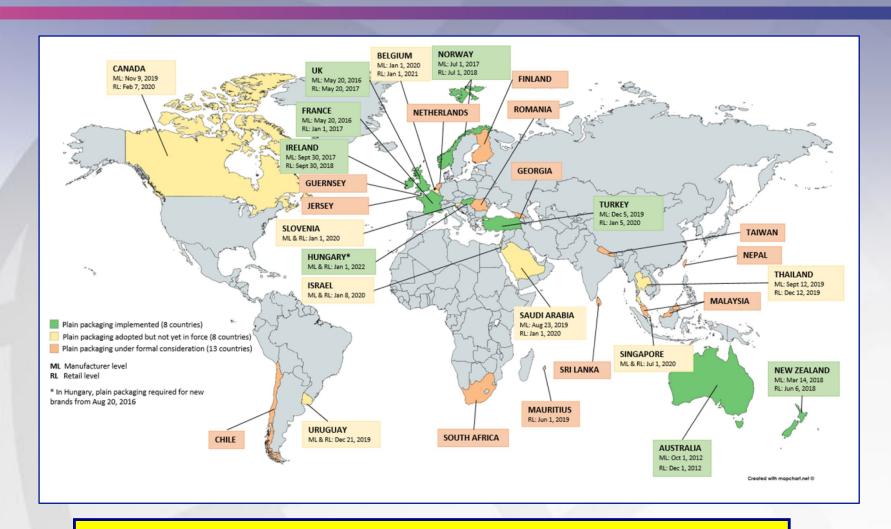
**Removing** impotence and carbon monoxide from the warnings **decreased awareness** of these health effects.





# **Evaluating Plain Packaging**

## **Tobacco Plain Packaging—September 2019**

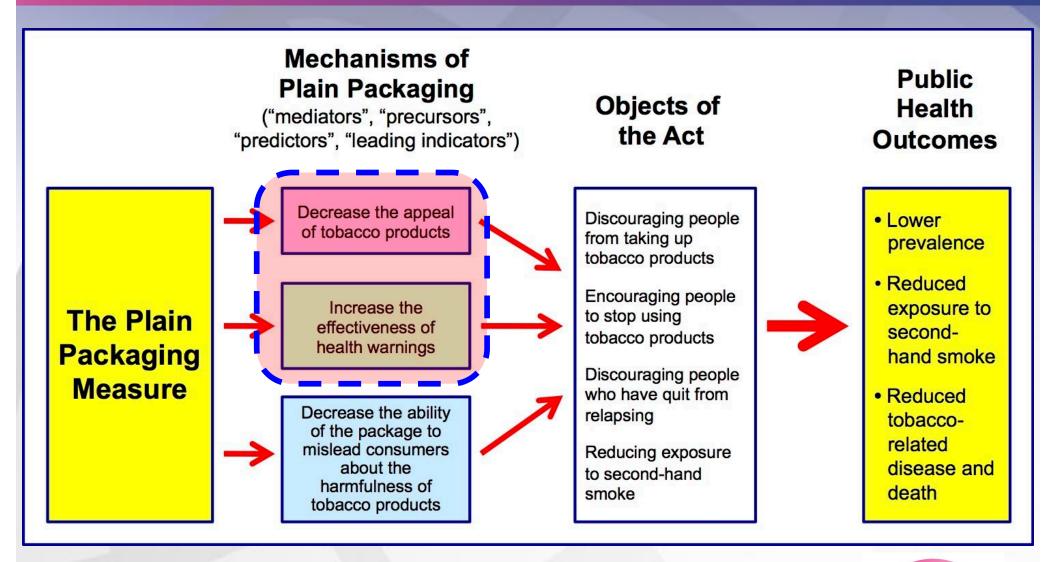


#### ITC Evaluation of Plain Packaging:

Australia, UK, New Zealand, France, Canada, Uruguay, Mauritius, Netherlands

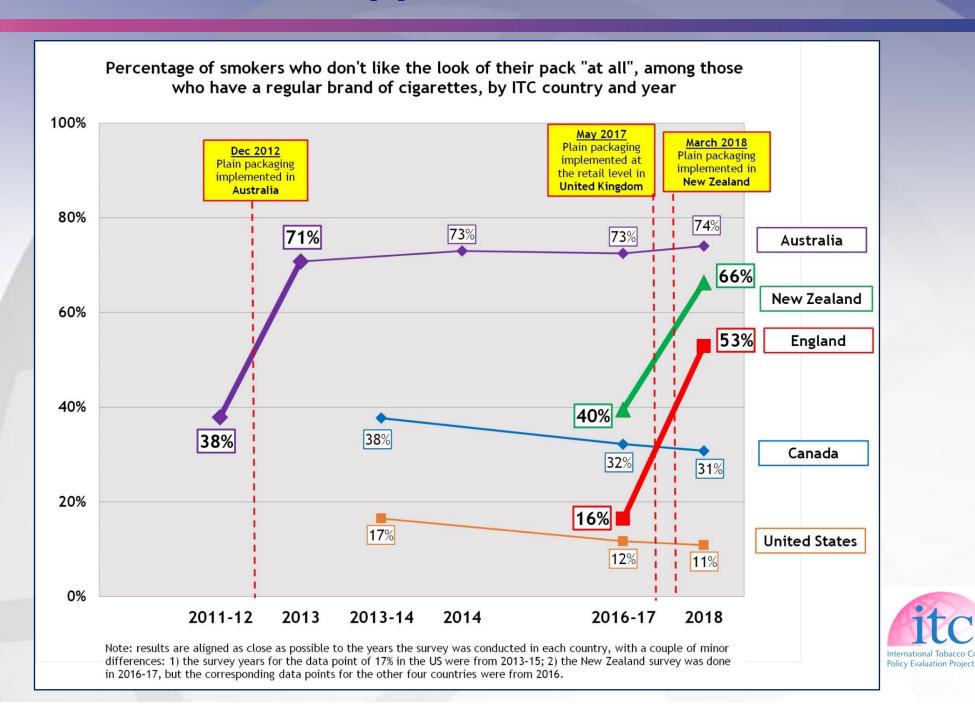


## **Tobacco Plain Packaging—Mediational Model**

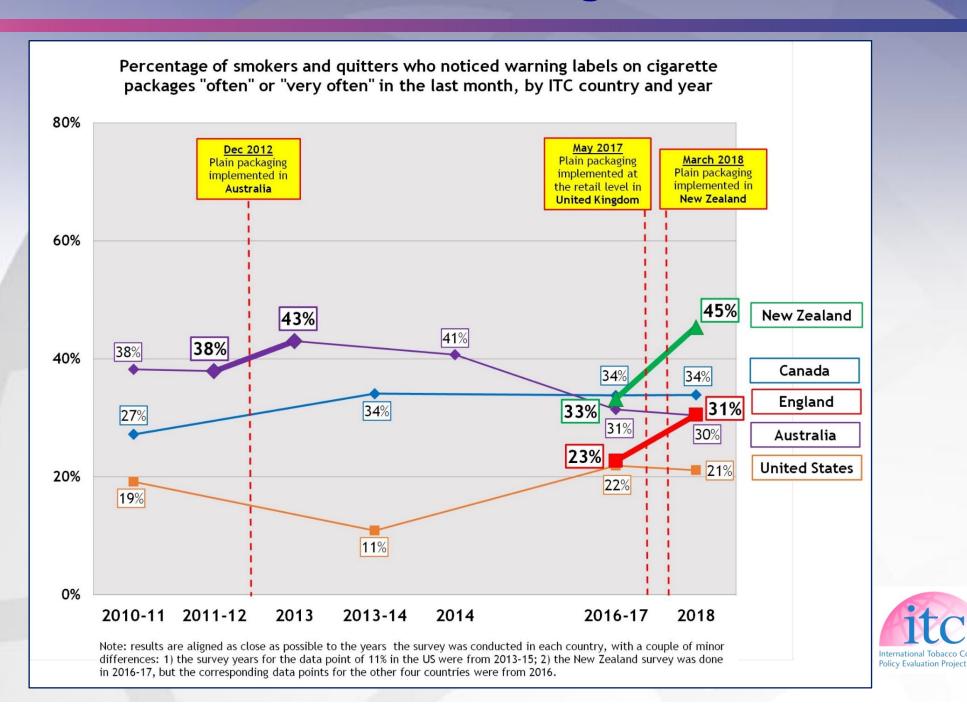




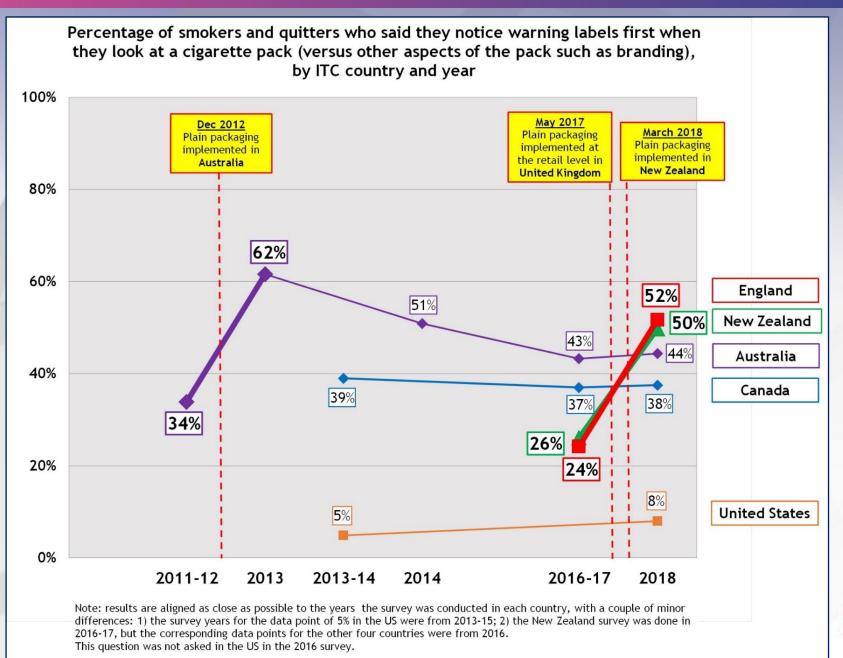
# **Appeal of Packs**



# **Noticed Warning Labels**

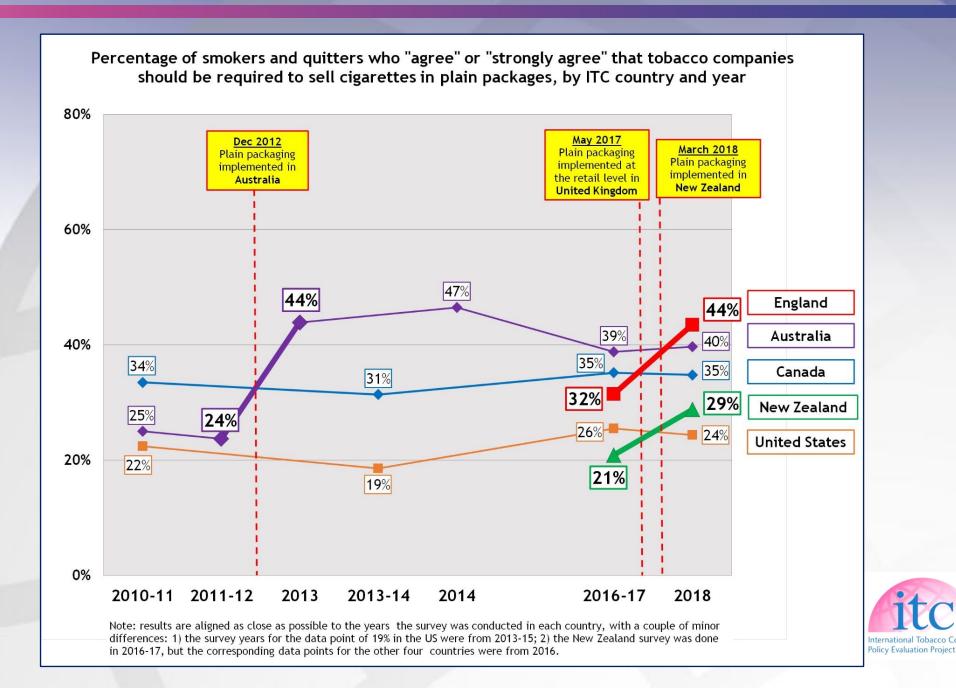


# **Noticed Warning Labels**





## **Support for Plain Packaging**





# Evaluating the impact of menthol cigarette bans on cessation and smoking behaviours in Canada: Findings from the 2016-18 ITC 4 Country Smoking and Vaping Surveys

Janet Chung-Hall<sup>1</sup>, Geoffrey T. Fong<sup>1</sup><sup>2</sup>, Gang Meng<sup>1</sup>, Lorraine Craig<sup>1</sup>, Anne C.K. Quah<sup>1</sup>, Janine Ouimet<sup>1</sup>, and Steve Xu<sup>1</sup>

### US FDA recommendations for menthol ban

"Removal of menthol cigarettes from the marketplace would benefit public health in the United States."

 Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee (TPSAC) report (2011)

"... menthol cigarettes pose a public health risk above that seen with nonmenthol cigarettes."

- 2013 US FDA report



## **US FDA** activity on menthol

#### **Cigarettes:**

- 2009 Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act: prohibits use of flavors in cigarettes but exempts menthol
- Nov 2018: FDA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to include provision for ban on menthol cigarettes
- June 2020: African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council and Action on Smoking and Health lawsuit against FDA

#### **E-Cigarettes:**

- Feb 6, 2020: implementation of federal ban on most flavors in one type of EC cartridge- or pod-based products (Juul)
- Exemptions for disposable flavored ECs, nicotine e-liquids currently available in +15,000 flavors, other refillable open systems, and menthol varieties of Juul and other cartridge/pod-based ECs
- Feb 28, 2020: bill that would ban all flavored tobacco products (i.e., ECs, menthol cigarettes, and flavored cigars) passed by US House of Representatives

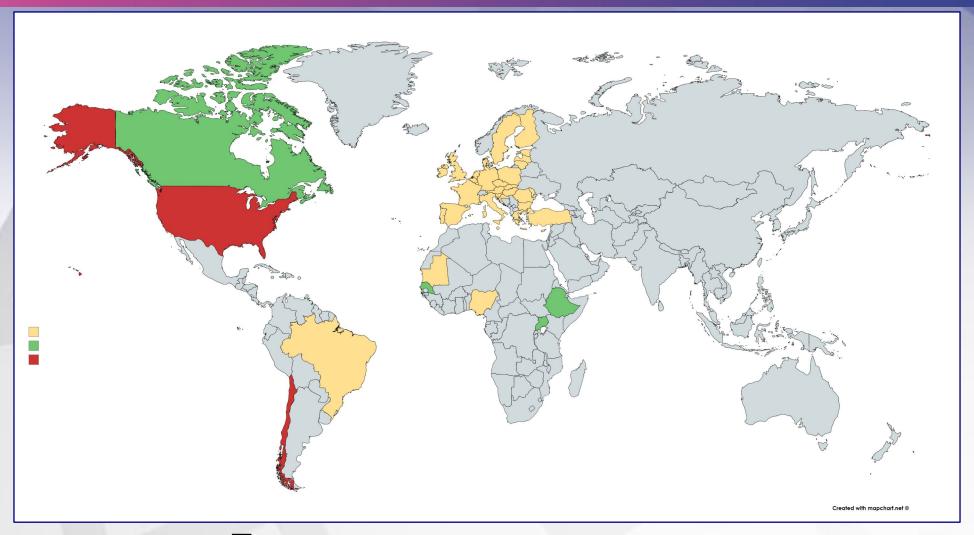


## Menthol cigarettes in Canada

- 5.4% of the Canadian cigarette market (2016)
- Higher rates of use for youth vs. adults (past 30 days)
  - 21% of high school students smoked menthols (2012-13)
  - 2% of adults smoked menthols (2015)
- Menthol flavour capsule products introduced in 2015
- Nova Scotia: first jurisdiction to ban menthol (May 2015)
- National menthol ban (October 2017)



#### **National menthol bans: Global status**



- Menthol ban implemented (4 countries)
  - Menthol ban adopted but not yet in force (33 countries)
    - Menthol ban under formal consideration (2 countries)



# Pre-post evaluation of menthol ban in Ontario (Chaiton et al., 2019)

#### Ban on menthol-flavoured tobacco products predicts cigarette cessation at 1 year: a population cohort study

Michael O Chaiton, <sup>• 1,2</sup> Ioana Nicolau, <sup>1,2</sup> Robert Schwartz, <sup>2</sup> Joanna E Cohen, <sup>3</sup> Eric Soule, <sup>4</sup> Bo Zhang, <sup>2,5</sup> Thomas Eissenberg <sup>6</sup>

non-menthol smokers (adjusted relative rate (ARR) for

smokers: 1.25; 95% CI 1.03 to 1.50). At follow-up, 24%

of daily menthol smokers reported making a guit since

the ban compared with 20% of occasional menthol

smokers and 14% of non-menthol smokers (ARR for

daily menthol smokers compared with non-menthol

Conclusions The study found higher rates of quitting

1 year after the implementation of a menthol ban

compared with non-menthol smokers. Our findings

suggest that restrictions on menthol may lead to

substantial improvements in public health.

among daily and occasional menthol smokers in Ontario

smokers: 1.62; 95% CI 1.08 to 2.42).

daily menthol smokers compared with non-menthol

tobaccocontrol-2018-054841). Department of Public Health Sciences, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada <sup>2</sup>Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto. Toronto, Ontario, Canada Institute for Global Tobacco Control, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, Maryland,

► Additional material is

published online only. To view

please visit the journal online

(http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/

Health Education and Promotion, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina, USA Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Department of Psychology and Center for the Study of Tobacco Products, Virginia Commonwealth University. Richmond, Virginia, USA

#### Correspondence to Michael O Chaiton, Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, Dalla

Lana School of Public Health University of Toronto, Toronto M5T 3M7, Ontario, Canada; michael.chaiton@utoronto.ca

Received 13 November 2018 Accepted 12 April 2019

The FDA noted in their scientific evaluation that Objectives The province of Ontario, Canada, banned menthol has a physiological impact on smoking the use of menthal-flavoured tobacco products as of 1 that increases initiation and progression to regular January 2017. The long-term impact of a menthol ban on cigarette smoking, increases nicotine dependence smoking behaviour has not been previously evaluated. and decreases smoking cessation success.4 These Methods Population cohort study with baseline findings were consistent across three independent survey conducted September-December 2016 and reports (TPSAC report, FDA report and a 2017 follow-up January-August 2018 among residents of systematic review by Villanti et al).457 Further, the Ontario, Canada, 16 years old and over who reported FDA report found that menthol smoking patterns current smoking (past 30 days) at baseline survey and differed by subpopulation.4 For instance, younger completed follow-up (n=913) including 187 reporting populations, women and black Americans were smoking menthol cigarettes daily, 420 reported smoking more likely to smoke menthol cigarettes.4 These menthol cigarettes occasionally, and 306 were nonmenthol smoking patterns among subpopulations menthol cigarette smokers. Relative rates of making perfectly matched the targeted marketing strategies a guit attempt and being a non-smoker at follow-up employed by the tobacco industry.4 were estimated with Poisson regression controlling for Although there are strong recommendations for smoking and demographic characteristics at baseline. Results At follow-up, 63% of daily menthol smokers reported making a guit attempt since the ban compared with 62% of occasional menthol smokers and 43% of

banning menthol tobacco products, very few countries have hanned menthol cigarettes 19 Canada has implemented a new national ban to address rates of menthol cigarette use among youth. 10 Other nations such as Brazil, Ethiopia, Turkey and the European Union have passed regulations to ban menthol tobacco products. 9 In the USA, the FDA has announced intentions to regulate the sale of menthol in tobacco.11 San Francisco has already banned the sale of menthol cigarettes and other tobacco products with flavours and many other local and state jurisdiction have or are considering implementing restrictions. 12-14 Evaluating the impact of a menthol ban could inform the implementation of restrictions in other jurisdictions.

Several studies that have attempted to estimate the behavioural intentions following a menthol ban found that between 35% and 66% of current menthol smokers in the USA stated they would quit if there was a menthol ban, 15-17 Further, a simulation study was conducted to predict the effects of a Menthol is a flavouring agent added to cigarettes hypothetical menthol ban in the USA on smoking Menthol ban effective for increasing quitting among menthol smokers vs. non-menthol smokers.

#### One year after menthol ban in **Ontario:**

- 63% menthol smokers made quit attempt vs. 43% non-menthol smokers (p<.001)
- 24% menthol smokers had quit vs. 14% non-menthol smokers (p<.05)

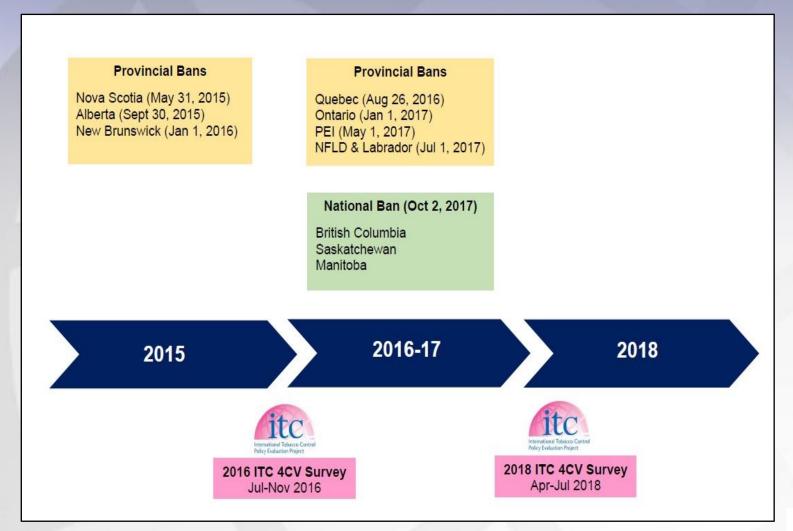


# Methods: Participants and study design

- Canadian data from 2016 and 2018 ITC Four Country Smoking and Vaping (4CV) Surveys
- 1319 adult (18+ years) smokers
  - 1169 non-menthol smokers
  - 150 menthol smokers
- Surveys conducted before (2016) and after (2018) implementation of menthol bans in 7 provinces:
   Quebec, Ontario, Prince Edward Island,
   Newfoundland & Labrador, British Columbia,
   Saskatchewan, and Manitoba

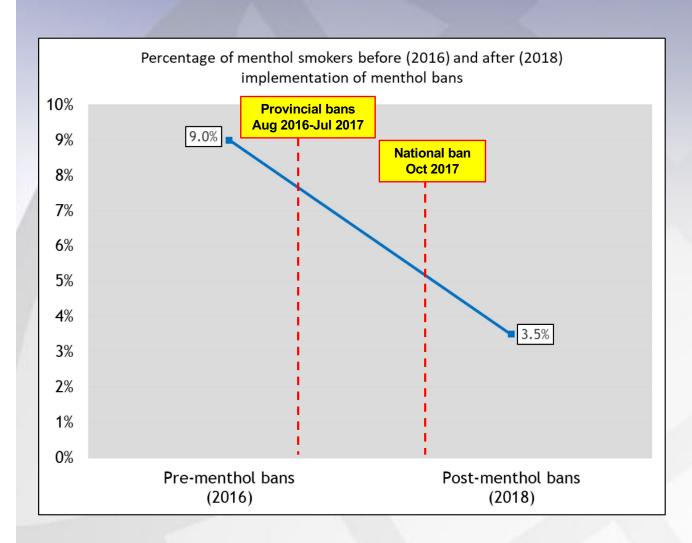


## Menthol bans in Canada and ITC survey waves





## Percentage of menthol smokers, pre- and post-ban

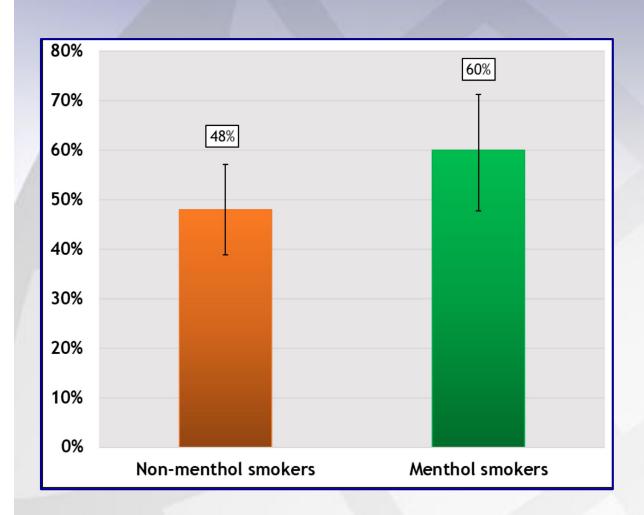


#### After menthol bans:

Decrease in menthol smoking across all 7 provinces (p<.001)



# Percentage of menthol and non-menthol smokers who made a quit attempt in last 18 months, after menthol bans

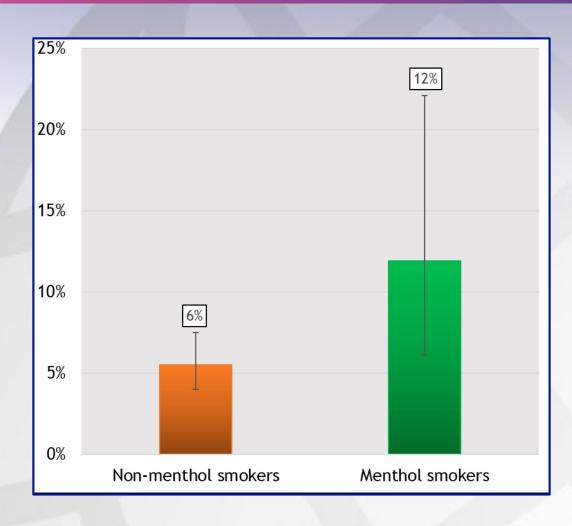


#### **After menthol bans:**

Menthol smokers more likely than non-menthol smokers to make a quit attempt in last 18 months (p<.05)



# Percentage of menthol and non-menthol smokers who quit smoking >6 months, after menthol bans

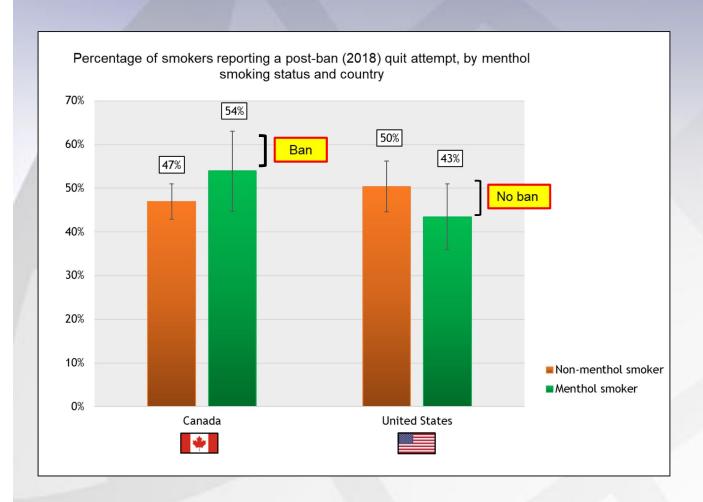


#### **After menthol bans:**

Menthol smokers more likely than non-menthol smokers to have quit smoking for >6 months (p<.01)



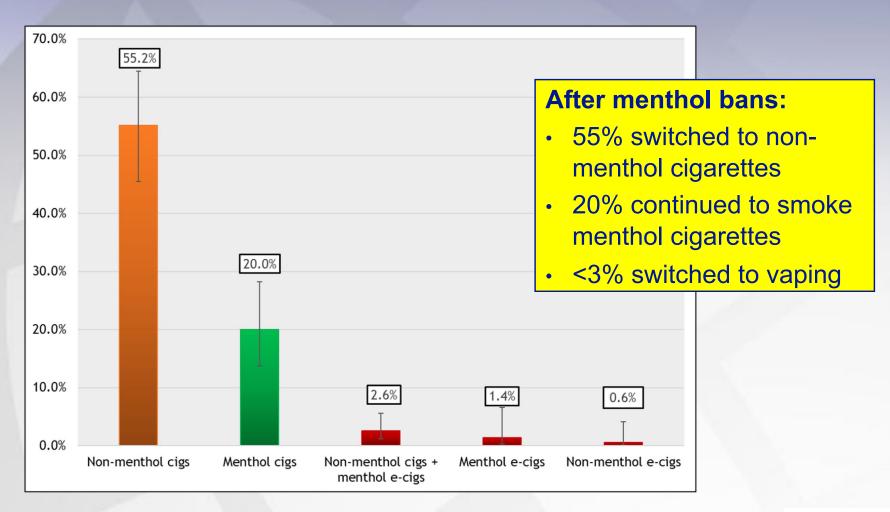
# Differences in quitting for menthol smokers vs. non-menthol smokers in Canada (ban) vs. US (no ban)?



- Menthol smokers in Canada more likely than menthol smokers in the US to make a quit attempt (p<.05)</li>
- No differences in quitting for menthol smokers vs. nonmenthol smokers in Canada and the US

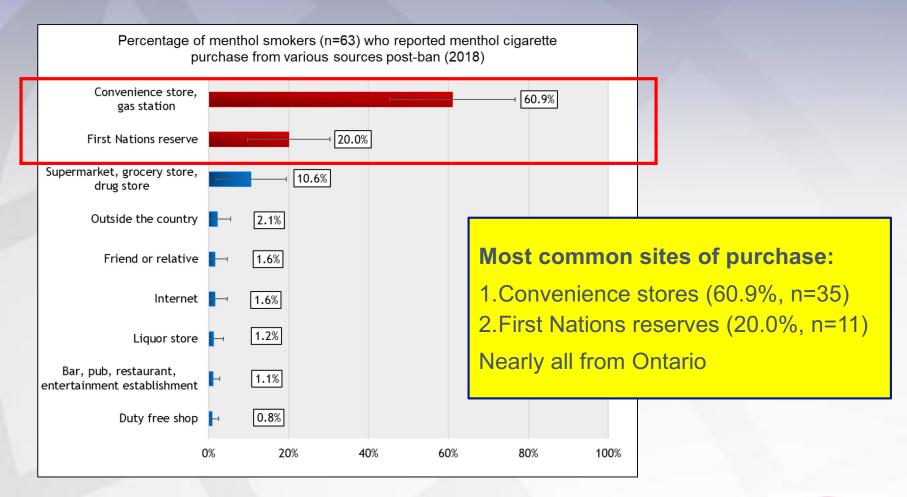


# What products did menthol smokers switch to after the menthol bans?





# Where did menthol smokers get their menthol cigarettes after the menthol ban?





# Non-menthol pack alternatives in retail outlets after menthol ban in Ontario (Borland et al., 2019)







Brief report

# Is blue the new green? Repackaging menthol cigarettes in response to a flavour ban in Ontario, Canada

Tracey Borland, <sup>1</sup> Sandra A D'Souza, <sup>0</sup> <sup>1</sup> Shawn O'Connor, <sup>1</sup> Michael Oliver Chaiton, <sup>1</sup> Robert Schwartz<sup>1,2</sup>

 Additional material is published online only. To view please visit the journal online (http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/ tobaccocontrol-2018-054454).

<sup>1</sup>Ontario Tobacco Research Unit, Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada <sup>2</sup>Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Correspondence to Tracey Borland, Ontario Tobacco Research Unit. c/o Dalla

#### ABSTRACT

Background As of 1 January 2017, the Canadian province of Ontario banned the distribution and sale of menthol tobacco products. There is limited knowledge about how tobacco companies will adapt their packaging in response to a menthol ban.

Methods We conducted a content analysis of preban traditional menthol (no capsule) and menthol capsule cigarette packs and their postban replacements. Preban and postban packs were matched using tobacco company descriptions of replacement brands in business-to-business marketing materials, advertising on cigarette pack cellophane and a tobacco company website.

Results A total of 63 menthol (n=30) and 'non-

of flavour capsule cigarettes has grown since 2007,<sup>2</sup> they were only introduced to the Canadian market in late 2015.<sup>3</sup> As per tobacco company business-to-business marketing materials, menthol capsule cigarettes were introduced to help adult menthol smokers transition into non-menthol cigarettes (online supplementary figure S1). However, a growing body of research demonstrates that flavoured capsule products are designed to appeal to younger demographics<sup>4–6</sup> and that youth and young adults find them more appealing than other age groups<sup>2,5,7</sup> In 2016, 6.7% of cigarette sales in Ontario were menthol.<sup>8</sup> Preban, approximately 25% of Ontario high school youth who smoked

Blue was the most common pack colour and brand descriptor after the menthol ban.



# Industry response before the menthol ban (May 2020) in the European Union/United Kingdom



Gemma Mullin, Digital Health Reporter 3 Jan 2020, 10:18 | Updated: 3 Jan 2020, 10:27







A TOBACCO firm has been blasted over its new range of Rizlas to get round the menthol cigarette ban which comes into effect this year.

Imperial Tobacco launched Rizla Flavour Infusions - 'cards' that can be used to add a menthol flavour to <u>traditional tobacco products.</u>







0 1

Imperial Tobacco is rolling out Rizla Flavour Infusions which are cards that can be inserted to cigarette or tobacco packets Credit: RIZLA

#### JTI adds menthol cigarillos to portfolio

▲ By Eilis Cronin in Tobacco ① 10th January 2020

**⊕** Print

Tobacco company JTI has raunched Sterling Dual Capsule Leaf wrapped cigarillos.



The King Size variant is available in a 10-pack size, retailing at £4.50, and contains a Virginia blend tobacco wrapped in a tobacco leaf.

The cigarillos contain a menthol capsule in the filter which when clicked will release a peppermint flavour.

Ross Hennessy, head of sales at JTI UK, said: "We expect that Sterling Dual Capsule Leaf Wrapped cigarillos will become a popular choice for adult smokers and appreciated by those looking for value-for-money tobacco options."





### **Summary of ITC Evaluation of Canada's Menthol Ban**

#### 1. Menthol bans help smokers to quit

- Increase in quit attempts and quitting for menthol smokers vs. nonmenthol smokers in Canada (consistent with findings from Ontario)
- Menthol smokers in Canada (ban) more likely to make quit attempt vs.
   menthol smokers in the US (no ban)
- Virtually no post-ban switching to vaping (either menthol or non-menthol e-cigs)

# 2. Need to monitor and prevent industry tactics to circumvent menthol bans

- 20% pre-ban menthol smokers continued to smoke menthol cigarettes
- Complete ban on menthol that covers all tobacco products is best
- Need additional measures to eliminate ability of industry to get around menthol ban (e.g., plain packaging, ban on brand descriptors, regulation of cigarette filters)

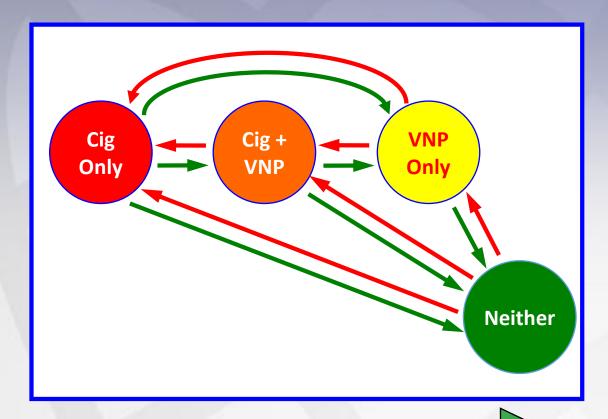


# **Extending the ITC Conceptual Model to Nicotine Vaporized Products**

#### Substitutability and Its Implications

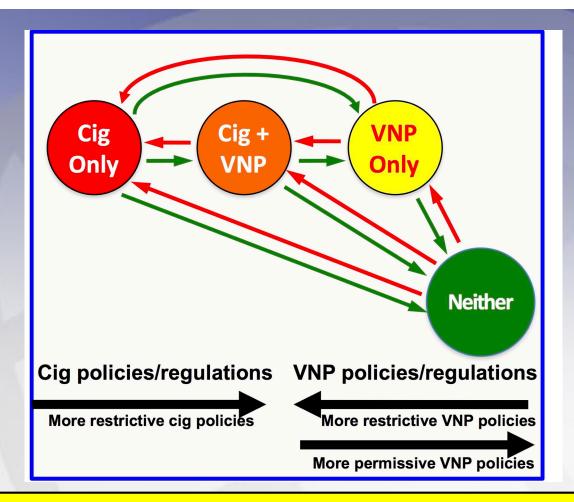
#### Cigarettes and Vaping Products are Substitutes

- Underlying assumption of the two key questions about vaping products:
  - Are e-cigarettes a gateway to cigarettes?
  - Do e-cigarettes help smokers quit?
- Substitutability most familiar for price/tax policies (cross-price elasticity; differential taxation, Chaloupka, Sweanor, & Warner, NEJM 2015)
- But substitutability has implications for (all) other policy domains:
  - Advertising. Analysis of 2010-15 U.S. data: e-cigarette advertising reduces demand for cigarettes. Proposed e-cig advertising ban estimated to increase cig sales by 1.0% (Tuchman, 2019)
  - Flavor Bans. Discrete choice expt in US: banning ecig flavors (menthol and/or fruit/sweet) leads to greater demand for cigarettes. (Buckell, Marti, & Sindelar, NBER 2017)



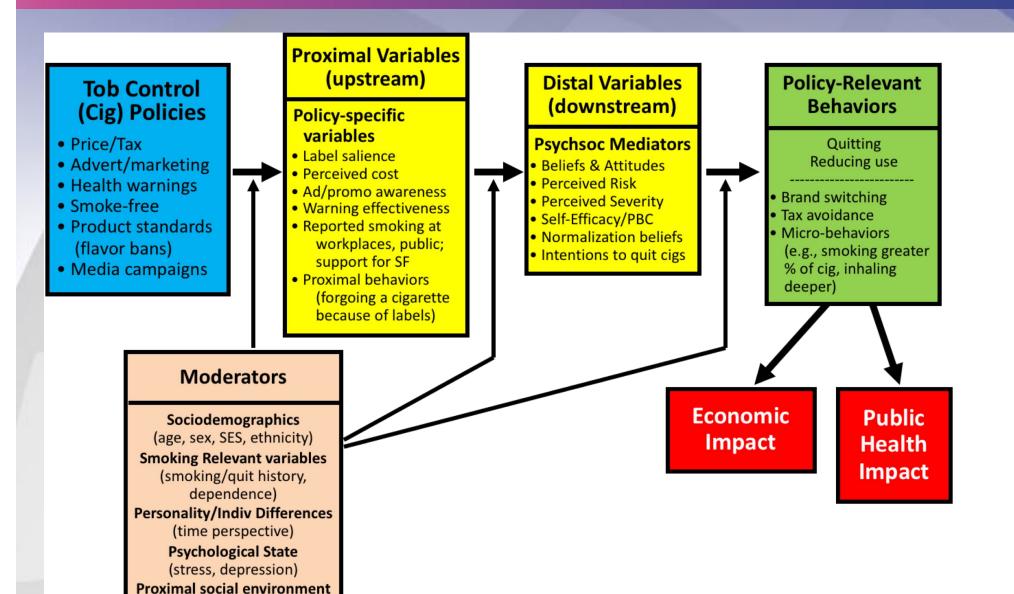
More Harmful to Less Harmful





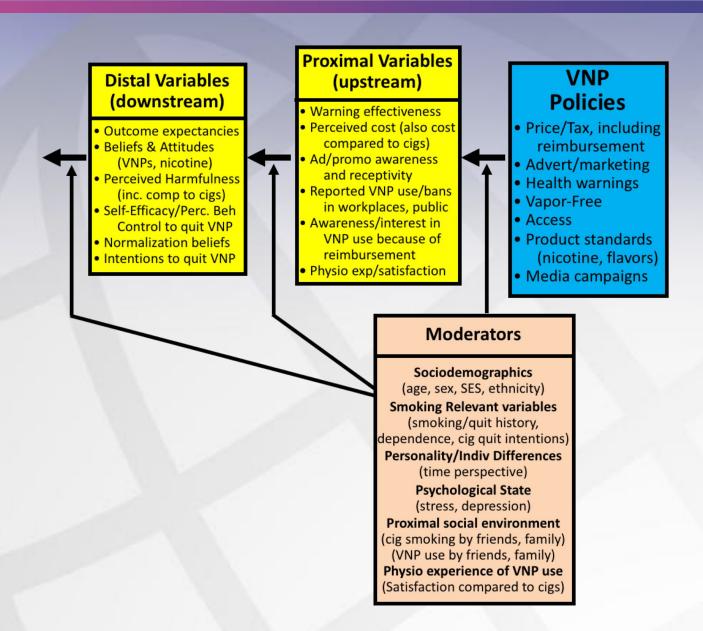
- Cigarette/tobacco control policies all push consumers away from cigarettes.
- But VNP (ANDS/ecig) policies are of two kinds:
  - More restrictive policies (bans, restrictions on access) may PUSH consumers away from VNPs (and possibly toward cigarettes));
  - More permissive policies (differential taxation) may PULL consumers toward VNPs

#### **ITC Conceptual Model: for Cigarettes**



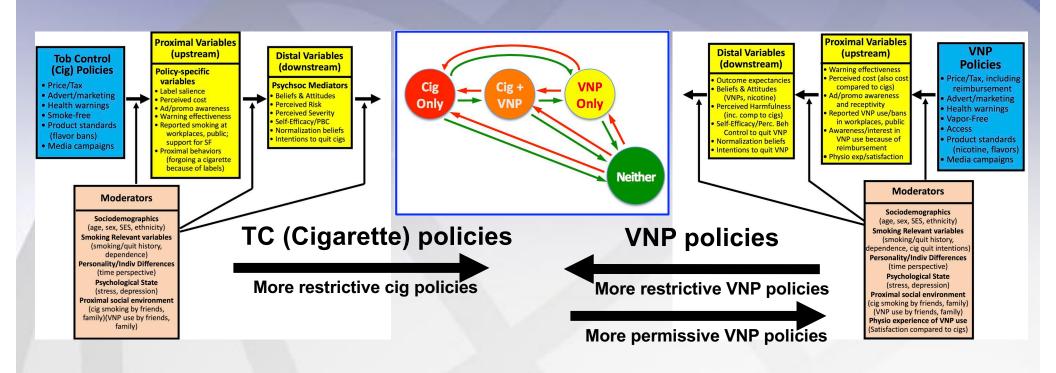
(cig smoking by friends, family)(VNP use by friends, family)

#### ITC Conceptual model applied to VNPs





#### ITC Tobacco Control-VNP Policy Mediational Model



Because cigarettes and VNPs are substitutable goods (this is a matter of DEGREE, not a matter of principle), it is essential to examine the impact of BOTH cigarette policies **AND** VNP policies to examine the impact of "policies/regulations" on use of VNPs, and transitions to/from cigarettes and VNPs.

## **US National Cancer Institute Program Grant**

Evaluating How Tobacco Control Policies are Shaping the Nicotine Delivery Market (P01 CA200512) (Co-Pls: K. Michael Cummings and Geoffrey T. Fong)

**Aim 1:** To provide a more thorough understanding of how the policy environment influences uptake of and transitions from smoked tobacco to VNPs.

**Aim 2:** To contribute to the development of methods for monitoring response to VNPs and future alternative nicotine products.

**Aim 3:** To develop methods to assist policy makers in forecasting the population health impact of different product regulatory schemes.

Policy Evaluation Project

#### Five Projects of the ITC P01 Grant

Project 1: Natural History of Cigarette Smoking and VNP Use in Countries with Different Policy Environments

Leader: Geoffrey T. Fong, PhD, University of Waterloo

**Project 2: Nicotine and Cigarettes Across Policy Environments** 

Leader: Richard O'Connor, PhD, Roswell Park Cancer Institute

Project 3: VNP Initiation Among Youth in the US, Canada, and England: Methods to Predict Uptake and Policy Efficacy

Leader: David Hammond, PhD, University of Waterloo

**Project 4: The Experimental Tobacco Marketplace (ETM)** 

Leader: Warren K. Bickel, PhD, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State Univ

Policy Evaluation Project

Project 5: Modelling Industry Behaviour and the Use of VNPs on Population Health

Leader: David Levy, PhD, Georgetown University

#### Project 1 Journal Articles published in 2019

# ADDICTION

Published since 1884 by the Society for the Study of Addiction

**VOLUME 114 • SUPPLEMENT 1 • JUNE 2019** 



International Tobacco Control Policy Evaluation Project

Findings from the 2016 ITC Four Country
Smoking and Vaping Survey

WILEY Blackwell

**ADDICTION Press** 

Articles from Project 1
data (4CV Wave 1)
other than from the
Addiction supplement



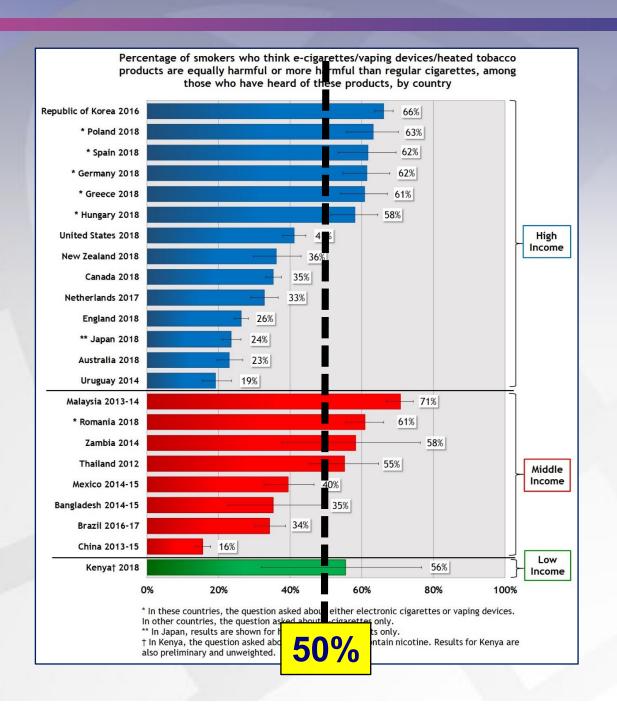
1 1	Titl:		
Lead	Title		
Author			
Cummings	Predicting the future of smoking in a rapidly evolving nicotine		
	marketplace.		
Thompson	Methods of the ITC Four Country Smoking and Vaping Survey, wave 1 (2016)		
O'Connor	Characteristics of nicotine vaping products used by participants in the 2016 ITC Four Country Smoking and Vaping Survey		
Borland	A new classification system for describing concurrent use of nicotine vaping products alongside cigarettes (so-called 'dual use')		
Yong	Reasons for regular vaping and for its discontinuation among smokers and recent ex-smokers		
McNeill	Indicators of cigarette smoking dependence and relapse in former smokers who vape compared with those who do not		
Chan	Predicting vaping uptake, vaping frequency and ongoing vaping among daily smokers		
Gravely	Discussions between health professionals and smokers about nicotine vaping products		
Levy	A modeling approach to gauging the effects of nicotine vaping product use on cessation from cigarettes: what do we know, what do we need to know?		
Aleyan	Differences in norms towards the use of nicotine vaping products among adult smokers, former smokers and nicotine vaping product users		
Nahhas	Rules about smoking and vaping in the home		
Cheng	Prices, use restrictions and electronic cigarette use		
McDermott	Exposure to and perceptions of health warning labels on nicotine vaping products		

Lead Author	Title			
Braak	Where do vapers buy their vaping supplies?			
Heckman	Longer duration of smoking abstinence is associated with waning cessation fatigue.			
Li	How are self-reported physical and mental health conditions related to vaping activities among smokers and quitters?			
Cho	Cross-country comparison of cigarette and vaping product marketing exposure and use.			
Gravely	Prevalence of awareness, ever-use and current use of nicotine vaping products (NVPs) among adult current smokers and exsmokers in 14 countries with differing regulations on sales and marketing of NVPs.			
Levy	An Examination of the Variation in Estimates of E-Cigarette Prevalence among U.S. Adults.			
Li	The association between smokers' self-reported health problems and quitting.			
Cheng	Costs of vaping.			



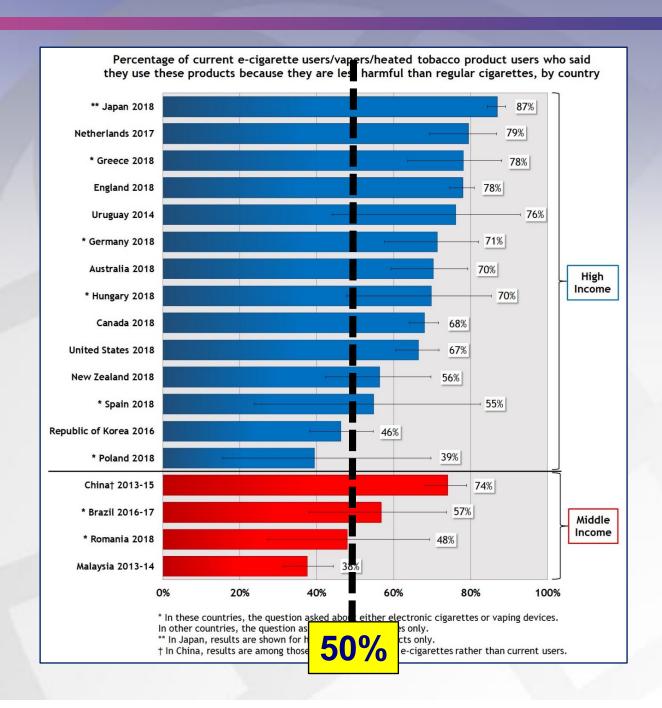
# **Cross-Country Data on E-Cigarettes**

#### Belief that E-Cigarettes are Equally/More Harmful



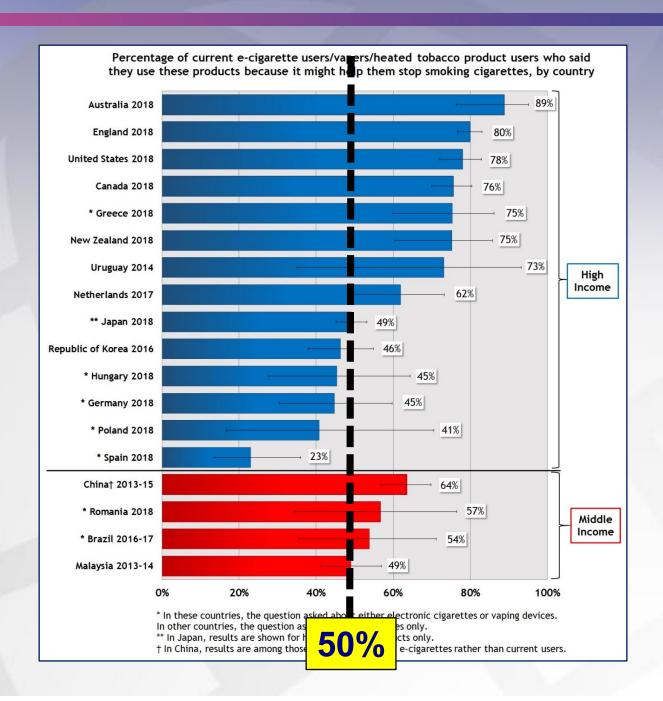


#### Reasons for Using E-Cigarettes: Less Harmful





## Reasons for Using E-Cigarettes: To Help Quit







# **Heated Tobacco Products**





新型IQOS誕生。 選べる2つのスタイル。

No.1<sup>®</sup>加熱式たばこ

IQOS 3

This changes everything



コチンにより喫煙への依存が生じます。 いんにより程度は異なりますが、 により程度は異なりますが、

















#### iQOS Store in Tokyo





#### iQOS Store in Toronto





**FDA NEWS RELEASE** 

# FDA permits sale of IQOS Tobacco Heating System through premarket tobacco product application pathway

Agency places stringent marketing restrictions on heated tobacco products aimed at preventing youth access and exposure to the new products

For Immediate Release: April 30, 2019

The FDA is continuing its substantive scientific review of the company's MRTP applications. The company would need to receive an MRTP order from the FDA before they could market a tobacco product with any implicit or explicit claims that, among other things, a product reduces exposure to certain chemicals or that use of the product is less

markets a tobacco product as an MRTP without authorization, the company would be in violation of the law and may face FDA advisory or enforcement actions.

harmful than another tobacco product or would reduce the risk of disease. If a company



**FDA NEWS RELEASE** 

#### FDA Authorizes Marketing of IQOS Tobacco Heating System with 'Reduced Exposure' Information

Agency Will Closely Monitor Real-World Data to Assess if Marketing Continues to be Appropriate

<b>f</b> Share	✓ Tweet	in Linkedin	<b>∠</b> Email	Print

For Immediate Release: July 07, 2020

Today's action pertains to the separate MRTP applications for these products and further authorizes the manufacturer to market these specific products with the following information:

#### "AVAILABLE EVIDENCE TO DATE:

- · The IQOS system heats tobacco but does not burn it.
- This significantly reduces the production of harmful and potentially harmful chemicals.
- Scientific studies have shown that switching completely from conventional cigarettes
  to the IQOS system significantly reduces your body's exposure to harmful or
  potentially harmful chemicals."

Even with this action, these products are not safe nor "FDA approved." The exposure modification orders also do not permit the company to make any other modified risk claims or any express or implied statements that convey or could mislead consumers into believing that the products are endorsed or approved by the FDA, or that the FDA deems the products to be safe for use by consumers.



#### **IQOS** and HTPs in Japan

- IQOS introduced nationally in Sep 2016
- By Sep 2019—captured 15.5% of the tobacco market (and all HTPs together had captured 21.4%).
- Over the same period: cigarette sales decreased by 30%.
- In just 5 years, IQOS now accounts for 18.7% of PMI's total revenue worldwide and it is sold in 52 countries.
- PMI has projected that IQOS and their other ANDS will comprise >30% of their global sales and 38-42% of their global revenue by 2025.







# ITC Japan and Korea Surveys

ITC Korea Team: Hong Gwan Seo, Sungkyu Lee, Sung-il Cho

ITC Japan Team: Yumiko Mochizuki, Itsuro Yoshimi, Takahiro Tabuchi, Kota Katanoda, Tadao Kakizoe

Hoor Croup	Sample Size	
User Group	Japan	Korea
Exclusive Cigarette Smoker	2,000	2,000
Exclusive HTP user	1,000	500
Exclusive EC user		400
HTP-cigarette dual user	1,000	800
EC-cigarette dual user		500
Never or Non-user	500	500
Total	4,500	4,700

#### Selected measures for Cigarettes, HTPs, and ECs (Appendix 1 = Wave 2 of Japan Survey)

Demographic Variables: Gender, age, ethnicity, education, income, state of health

**Other personal moderators:** Quitting history, nicotine dependence, levels of stress, including financial stress, depressed mood, use of intoxicants (e.g., alcohol, cannabis), time perspective, etc.

Environmental moderators: Number of smokers/ users in the household, and in social network

Policy-Specific (proximal) measures of FCTC policies (cigarettes) and policies on HTPs/ECs:

- a) Article 6 (all three product classes: cigarettes, HTPs, and ECs (Korea only)): Price paid per unit of product, total weekly cost, product type/variant, purchasing unit, price perceptions
- b) **Article 14 (all):** Use of cessation services & recall of advice, use of HTPs/ECs and/or other medicines use in conjunction with professional assistance, advice on appropriateness of HTPs/e-cigarettes use.
- c) Article 13 (all): Advertising/ marketing: noticing ads and frequency in key channels (TV, print, internet), susceptibility to advertising, whether HTP/EC advertising makes them think about cigarettes.
- d) Article 11 (all): Health warnings: salience and noticing of health warnings (if any), brand usage, perceived risks, perceived impact on product use; forgoing cigarettes because of the warnings.
- e) Article 8 (all): Smoke-free/Vapor-free laws (and/or establishment policies): exposure to smoking/vaping in key venues, perceived impact of laws/policies on product use, reports on restrictions
- f) Product availability (HTPs/ECs): Restrictions on access: perceived availability
- g) Article 9 (mostly HTPs/ECs): Nicotine content, flavor and other characteristics: nicotine content and flavors of HTP/EC brands used, perceived addictiveness of HTPs, ECs, cigarettes, appeal of HTPs/ECs.
- h) Article 12 (both): Awareness/recall of media campaigns on HTPs/ECs, and on anti-smoking themes.

**Psychosocial Mediator (distal) variables (all):** Knowledge/awareness/beliefs about harmfulness of cigarettes, HTPs, ECs, Social norms for HTPs, ECs, and cigarettes, outcome expectancies for products, reasons for using HTPs / ECs, self-efficacy and intentions to quit smoking; perceived harmfulness of HTPs and ECs relative to cigarettes, health concerns, functions of smoking.

Tobacco/Nicotine use behaviors (all): History and current levels of use: frequency, duration, use (e.g., cigarettes/day), usual brand/type of product; History of smoking quit attempts, use of targeted questions about last quit attempt (timing, length, aids used, duration of abstinence, reason success/relapse); product switching + reasons for switching (+ reasons for starting/quitting HTPs, ECs)

#### **Summary**

- ◆ The global tobacco epidemic is being addressed by the FCTC, but there are challenges in implementation.
- Evidence systems designed to evaluate FCTC policies to strengthen and accelerate implementation of the treaty
- ◆ ITC Project is designed for these evaluation efforts.
- Recent findings on impact of menthol ban in Canada show that menthol bans are beneficial. US should (finally) move forward
- ◆ Current/future directions: alternative nicotine products: e-cigarettes (vaping products) and the new heated tobacco products such as IQOS, which are now being sold in the US.
- ◆ ITC Cohort Surveys are ongoing in Japan and Korea where the industry has been test marketing HTPs.

# Support for the ITC Project



US National Cancer Institute Research Grants



Canadian Institutes of Health Research Foundation Grant



Ontario Institute for Cancer Research Senior Investigator Award



University of Waterloo Office of Research

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#### **ITC Project Research Organizations**































































































#### **ITC Project Research Support**





















































Secretaria Nacional de Ministério da Políticas sobre Drogas Justiça











Core support provided by the U.S. National Cancer Institute (P01 CA200512)

Core support provided by a Canadian Institutes of Health Research Foundation Grant

