

CODE OF PRACTICE ON TOBACCO CONTROL FOR HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#1. BE A ROLE MODEL



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#2. ASSESS AND ADDRESS TOBACCO



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#3. SUPPORT TOBACCO-FREE PREMISES AND EVENTS



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#4. DISCUSS TOBACCO TOO



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#5. ADVISE ON CESSATION



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#6. EDUCATE ABOUT TOBACCO



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#7. PARTICIPATE IN WORLD NO TOBACCO DAY



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#8. REJECT TOBACCO MONEY



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#9. DO NOT PARTNER WITH THE TOBACCO INDUSTRY



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#10. BAN TOBACCO PROMOTION



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#11. SUPPORT THE WHO FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON TOBACCO CONTROL



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#12. INVEST IN TOBACCO CONTROL



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#13. BE ACTIVE ON TOBACCO CONTROL



HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AGAINST TOBACCO
#14. SUPPORT SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC PLACES



Health professionals are doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists, psychologists, psychiatrists, pharmacists and other members of health-related professions. The role and image of the health professional is essential in promoting tobacco-free lifestyles and cultures. Through their professional activities they can help people by giving advice, guidance and answers to questions related to tobacco use and its health effects. They can also have an impact at national and international levels through their associations by influencing policy change for better tobacco control.

The code of practice for health professional organizations on tobacco control was developed by representatives from international health professional organizations worldwide. It lists 14 action points that outline the potential role health professionals and their organizations can play regarding tobacco control and public health goals, including support for the WHO FCTC process.

In order to contribute actively to the reduction of tobacco consumption and include tobacco control in the public health agenda at national, regional and global levels, it is hereby agreed that health professional organizations will:

1. Encourage and support their members to be role models by not using tobacco and by promoting a tobacco-free culture.
2. Assess and address the tobacco consumption patterns and tobacco-control attitudes of their members through surveys and the introduction of appropriate policies.
3. Make their own organizations' premises and events tobacco-free and encourage their members to do the same.
4. Include tobacco control in the agenda of all relevant health-related congresses and conferences.
5. Advise their members to routinely ask patients and clients about tobacco consumption and exposure to tobacco smoke using evidence-based approaches and best practices, give advice on how to quit smoking and ensure appropriate follow up of their cessation goals.
6. Influence health institutions and educational centres to include tobacco control in their health professionals' curricula, through continued education and other training programmes.
7. Actively participate in World No Tobacco Day every 31 May.
8. Refrain from accepting any kind of tobacco industry support – financial or otherwise – and from investing in the tobacco industry, and encourage their members to do the same.
9. Ensure that their organization has a stated policy on any commercial or other kind of relationship with partners who interact with or have interests in the tobacco industry through a declaration of interest.
10. Prohibit the sale or promotion of tobacco products on their premises, and encourage their members to do the same.
11. Actively support governments in the process leading to signature, ratification and implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.
12. Dedicate financial and/or other resources to tobacco control – including dedicating resources to the implementation of this code of practice.
13. Participate in the tobacco-control activities of health professional networks.
14. Support campaigns for tobacco-free public places.

www.who.int/tobacco/codeofpractice