



## Towards a Tobacco-Free World Declaration on Tobacco Control



Smoking among men is high in the Asian Pacific Region, and the smoking uptake among youth and women has been a critical issue. Several areas in the region have the world's highest mortality rates from oral cancer due to the habit of chewing of betel quid and areca nut mixed with tobacco.

Despite current knowledge of the harm caused by tobacco to health, oral health professionals remain insufficiently involved in tobacco cessation, even though they are in a position to reduce the burden of oral and systemic diseases by influencing tobacco use. Tobacco prevention activities can be integrated into existing oral health policies or translated through new community programs. Dental professional organizations are required to participate in tobacco control measures at the national and regional levels. The WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control calls for international collaboration and strengthening of the participation of oral health professionals in tobacco cessation.

In such circumstances the Asian Academy of Preventive Dentistry (AAPD) and the Japanese Society for Oral Health (JSOH) should take active participation in advocating tobacco control interventions. Aiming for a tobacco-free environment in the region, the AAPD and the JSOH urge their members to implement the following tobacco control measures:

1. Promoting research in the area of tobacco cessation
2. Sharing of evidence, best practices and expertise in tobacco control
3. Distributing knowledge about the harmful effects of tobacco among its members, other health professionals and the general public
4. Integrating tobacco cessation into other oral health education and clinical activities
5. Promoting tobacco cessation among oral health professionals and dental students
6. Integrating tobacco-related subjects into dental curriculums and programs of continuing education
7. Promoting a tobacco-free environment at conference venues and including tobacco control in the agenda of the conference

*The 12<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Asian Academy of Preventive Dentistry  
The 65<sup>th</sup> General Meeting of Japanese Society for Oral Health*

*Tokyo, Japan, May 29, 2016*