

Post-Christmas Sale



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EPA: smoke causes cancer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency will release a long-delayed report that says secondhand cigarette smoke is a human carcinogen and kills about 3,000 non-smokers a year because of lung cancer, agency officials said Tuesday.

The report, to be released Thursday, also concludes that secondhand smoke increases the risk of pneumonia and bronchitis in children.

The EPA has the power to classify a substance as a carcinogen, but it does not have any power to regulate indoor air. The release of the report, however, could trigger an avalanche of federal, state and local regulations limiting smoking in public places, health advocates said.

"Having the EPA's imprimatur on this is extremely important," said Dr. Alfred Munzer, a spokesman for the Coalition on Smoking or Health, which includes the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society.

"We believe this will motivate state governments, local governments to enact further regulations limiting smoking in public places."

The report also could prod the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to regulate smoking in the workplace, health advocates said. Douglas Fuller, an OSHA spokesman, said the agency would weigh the EPA report carefully in its deliberations.

Munzer called on President Bush to use the report to justify an order to restrict smoking in federal buildings. "This is far less controversial than the pardons he has issued and would do a tremendous amount for the public health," Munzer

'We believe this will motivate ... governments to enact further regulations limiting smoking in public places.'

— Alfred Munzer,
Coalition on Smoking or Health

said.

The report concludes that secondhand smoke is a proven human carcinogen, putting it in the same class as asbestos, benzene and radon, EPA officials said.

The report's authors said cigarette smoke causes from 400 to 7,000 lung cancer deaths in American non-smokers annually, with a "best estimate" of 3,000 cases. That's based on conservative assumptions, they said, so the actual total could be higher.

They also said that cigarette smoke increases the risk of pneumonia, bronchitis and middle-ear disorders in children. The report also concludes that cigarette smoke increases the severity and frequency of asthma in children, EPA officials said.

The EPA has decided to kill a second report that links secondhand smoke to 37,000 heart-disease deaths annually, said Robert Axelrad, head of the EPA's indoor-air division. The report originally was conceived to be a companion to the lung-cancer report.

Kids at risk from chewing tobacco

CHICAGO (AP) — One in four teen-age consumers of chewing tobacco started using it between ages five and eight, greatly increasing their risk of developing cancer, according to researchers.

Another 25 percent of the teen-age smokeless tobacco users surveyed began using it between ages nine and 12, said a report in the January issue of Pediatrics.

Researchers said the survey of 242 smokeless tobacco users among 2,018 sixth- through ninth-graders in Arkansas typifies other states, especially rural ones.

The authors called for nationwide, grade-school education

about the dangers of smokeless tobacco.

"I think almost anywhere across the nation, our children have access" to smokeless tobacco, said the lead author, Anita Gottlieb, coordinator of outpatient quality improvement at Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock.

The study cited previous researchers who said smokeless tobacco users are four times more likely than non-users to develop mouth or throat cancer.

The Smokeless Tobacco Council, a trade group based in Washington, D.C., claims smokeless tobacco hasn't been proven to cause human disease.

But the U.S. surgeon general warned in December that increasing use of chewing tobacco among youths may foreshadow an epidemic of oral cancer in coming decades.

The Arkansas researchers found that 12 percent of youths in their study had used smokeless tobacco at least twice.

Sixty-four of the users, or 26 percent, reported starting when they were five to eight years old. Another 61 users, or 25 percent, started when they were nine to 12 years old.

"The earlier they started, and this is what I found really scary ... the more likely they were to be using on a regular basis as they got older," Gottlieb said.

PLAY YOUR HEART OUT!



**MANDATORY! - BASKETBALL
INSTANT SCHEDULING**

Monday, January 11, 2:30 p.m. - Fir Room, EMU

Managers/captains/free agent meeting for basketball, volleyball, inner tube water polo and racquetball

Thursday, January 7, 4 p.m., 242 Gerlinger

For more info. call x4113, or drop by
103 Gerlinger Hall

Schedule of Activities - Winter '93

Leagues	Day	Mon. #	Entry	Start	Fee
Basketball	M-W-C	5	Instant Scheduling**	Jan. 14	\$40
Racquetball	M-W	3	Jan. 8, 3 p.m.	Jan. 20	\$40
Volleyball	C	6	Jan. 15, 3 p.m.	Jan. 20	\$40
Inner Tube Water Polo	C	6	Jan. 21, 3 p.m.	Jan. 26	\$40
Indoor Soccer*	W	5	Jan. 5, 5 p.m.	Jan. 9	
One Day Events					
Basketball Scramble	M-W	5	Jan. 12	Jan. 13	NC
International Sports Day	M-W			Jan. 16	\$1/person
Schick Super Hoops	M-W	3	Jan. 21	Jan. 23	\$15
3x3 Basketball	M-W	1	Feb. 10	Feb. 10	NC
Free Throw/Hot Shot!	M-W				
Two/Three Day Events					
Indoor Soccer	M-W-C	5	Feb. 4, 3 p.m.	Feb. 6	\$15
Tennis Classic	M-W-C	1-2	Feb. 9, 5 p.m.	Feb. 12	
Wrestling	M		Feb. 15, 4 p.m.	Feb. 15-prelims	\$2/person
				Feb. 16-semis & finals	

* M=Men, W=Women, C=Coed

+ Intramural Sport - under IM regulations (see handbook)

! Cost for activity - check RIM office for exact amount

* This is a combination community/University league

** Mandatory! - Basketball Instant Scheduling - Monday, January 11, 2:30 p.m. - Fir Room, EMU

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