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ATTITUDE OF ADULT POPULATION OF THE KRASNOYARSK TERRITORY TO SMOKING BAN AT WORKPLACES

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We have conducted an opinion survey among representative sample of working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory (1000 persons aged from 18 to 60) to study their attitude to the introduction of smoking ban at workplaces. Data was collected from questionnaires and telephone interviews.

The collected data suggests, that 32,7% of respondents smoke on a regular basis, 45,2% are exposed to cigarette smoke at workplaces, 67,2% of nonsmokers are passive smokers. 64,8% of respondents support the idea of smoking ban at indoor workplaces; 46,3% of respondents support imposing sanctions for violation of the ban; 52,6% of smokers are ready to smoke only outdoors or in specially allotted places. After the introduction of smoking ban at cafes, restaurants and bars 90,8% of working population will still continue visiting them or visit more often, and 16,9% of those who did not attend them before because of cigarette smoke present in the air. In the view of the working population introduction of smoking ban at indoor workplaces is essential for the preservation of the population's health.

Keywords: active and passive smoking, workplaces, prohibition measures.

ОТНОШЕНИЕ ВЗРОСЛОГО НАСЕЛЕНИЯ КРАСНОЯРСКОГО КРАЯ К ВВЕДЕНИЮ МЕР, НАПРАВЛЕННЫХ НА БОРЬБУ С ТАБАКОКУРЕНИЕМ НА РАБОЧИХ МЕСТАХ

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Проведено социологическое исследование репрезентативной выборки работающего населения Красноярского края (1000 человек в возрасте от 18 до 60 лет) по изучению отношения к введению мер запрета курения на рабочих местах. Опрос проводился с использованием социологической анкеты методом телефонного интервью.

Согласно полученным данным, постоянно курят 32,7% опрошенных, подвергаются воздействию табачного дыма на рабочем месте - 45,2%, пассивными курильщиками являются 67,2% некурящих. Поддерживают введение запрета на курение на рабочих местах в закрытых помещениях 64,8%; являются сторонниками введения санкций за нарушение запрета 46,3% опрошенных; высказали готовность курить только на улице, в специально отведенных местах 52,6% курильщиков. После введения запрета курения в кафе, ресторанах и барах их по-прежнему или чаще будут посещать 90,8% работающих граждан, а также 16,9% из числа тех, которые не посещали эти заведения ранее из-за присутствия в воздухе табачного дыма. С точки зрения работающего населения, введение запрета курения на рабочих местах в закрытых помещениях является необходимой мерой, способствующей сохранению здоровья населения.

Ключевые слова: активное и пассивное курение, рабочие места, меры запрета.

Increasing tobacco epidemic presents a serious threat to health and is one of the main causes of high mortality of the Russian population [2,4,5]. According to GATS

survey, 60,2% of Russian men and 21,7% of women are smokers, and make nearly 44 mln. people; about 35% of Russian people are affected by passive smoking at workplaces [1].

In the view of the newly adopted Federal Law No.15 dated 23 February 2013 ‘On Protection of the Health of Population against Exposure to Tobacco Smoke and Effects of Tobacco Consumption’ [3] there is acute the issue of the attitude of the population to smoking ban, which is informative of possible social strain as people are unwilling to observe the ban.

One of the measures to decrease smoking is banning smoking at indoor workplaces [5]. In the meantime, there is lack of scientific data informative of the attitude of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory to smoking ban at indoor workplaces and their readiness to observe the prohibition. Therefore, this became the reason for conducting a survey made by Krasnoyarsk Territory Centre for Preventive Medicine and Sociology and Public Relations Department of Siberian Federal University before the adoption of the new antismoking law (2012).

Goal of Study:

to study the attitude of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory to antismoking measures at workplaces.

Tasks of Study:

1. To obtain the data about the percent of active and passive smokers among the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory.
2. To estimate the readiness of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory to observe the ban at indoor workplaces and sanctions for its violation.
3. To study the attitude of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory to smoke ban at cafes, bars and restaurants.

Materials and Methods

The working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory aged 18-60 was the object of study. We have surveyed proportional quota samples, representative of sex,

age and location in the number of 1000 respondents, 478 of them men (47,8%) and 522 women (52,2%).

The data for the study was collected from sociological questionnaire and telephone interviews. The questionnaire included introductory and the main parts. The introductory part addressed the respondents stating the goals of the survey, introducing the customers who ordered the survey and explained the use of results.

The main part contained questions on the problem under study. Answer options were in the form of a list of measurable characteristics presented in the form of scales. Three main types of scales were used: nominal - to measure objective characteristics of the respondents (such as sex, education); ranking (ordinal) – to choose the answer options; interval (metric) scales – for characteristics measured in numbers (age). The questionnaire had questions both for smoking and nonsmoking respondents and at the end the respondents were thanked for their contribution.

Techniques of descriptive statistics and statistics software SPSS were used for analysis of empirical data.

Discussion of Results

The survey showed that 32,5% of the working population aged 18-60 can be referred to smokers (49,2% of men and 17,7% of women), Table 1. 70,4% of smoking respondents make 'smoking breaks' during the working day, including 39% of smokers who have 4 to 6 breaks, and 31,4% with 1-3 breaks. Male smokers smoke more often - 45% of them have smoking breaks 4-6 times during the working day, while only 23,3% female smokers do so.

45,2% of working individuals are exposed to cigarette smoke at workplace; while 67,2% of non-smokers are passive smokers. The percent of passive smokers among non-smoking men makes 95,5%, and 51,0% among non-smoking women (Tab.1)

Table 1

**Intensity of active and passive smoking in working population
 of the Krasnoyarsk Territory**

Total number of respondents		Percent of smokers		Percent of non-smokers		Exposed to cigarette smoke at workplace		
		Absolute number	%	Absolute number	%	Absolute number	% of the total number of respondents	% of non-smokers
Total	1000	327	32,7	673	67,3	452	45,2	67,2%
Men	478	235	49,2	243	50,8	232	48,5	95,5%
Women	522	92	17,7	429	82,3	219	42	51,0%

64,8% of adult working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory support smoking ban at indoor workplaces, however, only 46,3% support imposing sanctions for the violation of the ban (Table 2).

Women more often tend to support antismoking measures at workplaces (74,0%), and the majority of them agree on the necessity of imposing sanctions for the ban violation (78,0%). In contrast men are more careful about supporting smoking ban (55,4%) and far less often support imposing sanctions for the violation of the ban (34,2%), Table 2.

21,5% are against the sanctions. 27,3% of respondents are indifferent to whether the sanctions will be imposed or not. Thus, we can suppose that 73.6% of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory (those who support the sanctions and those who are indifferent) will not express protest against sanctions for the violation of the ban.

Indicative is how the working population perceives nonsmokers. The majority of adult working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory (61,6%) considers it absolutely unacceptable when colleagues smoke at the workplace near them, Table.2.

22,7% of respondents are indifferent to whether somebody is smoking in their presence. For 12,7% smoking at workplace is quite acceptable.

Notably, women constitute the major part of the respondents who do not accept the idea of smoking at workplace (73,3%). Men are more loyal to their colleagues smoking at workplace: only 48,3% of men protested against their colleagues smoking at workplace, and 17,6% of men think it normal. Only 8,3% of female respondents gave the same answer. 2,9% of women and 3,8% of men found it difficult to answer this question.

Table 2

Attitude of working population to smoking ban at indoor workplaces

Number of respondents who gave the answer		Support smoking ban at indoor workplaces		Support punishment for violation of smoking ban at workplaces		Are against colleagues smoking at indoor workplaces	
		Absolute number	%	Absolute number	%	Absolute number	% of the total number of respondents
Total	996	648	65,1	463	46,5	614	61,6
Men	477	264	55,4	163	34,2	231	48,3
Women	519	384	74,0	300	78,0	383	73,8

Regarding the awareness of the harmful effects of passive smoking and readiness of the working population to observe smoking ban at indoor workplaces, we can see the following: 90,0% of smokers of the total number of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory aged 18-60 are aware of the fact that indoor smoking harms other people's health. However, only 52,6% of smokers expressed their readiness to smoke only outdoors or in specially allotted places.

As we approach adoption of a new antismoking law there arises the issue of expected losses restaurant business may face after smoking in restaurants, bars, cafes and other public eating places will be banned, instigated by tobacco companies.

Therefore, another goal of this study was to analyze the forecast of attendance of restaurants, cafes and bars after the introduction of smoking ban.

Table 3 shows the data on supposed patronage of cafes, bars and restaurants after the introduction of antismoking measures there.

The majority (62,1%) of adult working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory visit cafes, bars, restaurants; and the share of men and women is equal (Table 3). Young people aged 18-24 are the most frequent visitors there (85,2%).

After the introduction of total smoking ban 90,8% of respondents who visit cafes, bars and restaurants will continue visiting them or are likely to do it even more often even after the introduction of antismoking measures there (87,6% of men, 93,4% of women). This statement was expressed by all age groups: 78,2% of 18-24 year olds, 93,0% of 25-44 year olds, 88,2% of 45-60 year olds. Remarkable is the fact that 36,8% of smoking respondents will attend these places more often after the introduction of smoking ban. Among the respondents who do not visit cafes, bars or restaurants 16,9% are ready to start visiting them after smoking will be banned there (Table 3).

Table 3

Forecast of patronage of cafes, restaurants and bars after the introduction of smoking ban

Total number of respondents		Visit cafes, bars, restaurants		Do not visit cafes, bars, restaurants	Of them will continue visiting these places after the introduction of total smoking ban		Will not stop (or) will more often visit cafes, bars, restaurants after the introduction of total smoking ban	
		Absolute number	%		Absolute number	Absolute number	% of p.5	Absolute number
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Total	1000	621	62,1	379	64	16,9	564	90,8
Men	478	290	60,7	188	26	13,8	254	87,6
Women	522	332	63,6	190	38	20,0	310	93,4

Consequently, Table 3 shows that 628 of 1000 respondents (62,8%) are likely to visit cafes, bars and restaurants after introduction of total smoking ban there. Despite a small decrease in the number of visitors (by 9,2% because of smokers) we can forecast an increase in the number of visitors (nearly by 17%) who used to avoid these places because of cigarette smoke there.

Conclusion

Concluding the above stated, we would like to highlight the certain facts detected in the course of study. One third of the working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory aged 18-60 (32,7%) are regular smokers. About 40% of them make 4 to 6 smoking breaks during the working day. 45,2% of working individuals are affected by cigarette smoke at workplaces, 67,2% of nonsmokers are passive smokers, mostly men (95,5%).

64,8% of the working population support introduction of smoking ban at indoor workplaces; for 61,6% of adult working population smoking at workplace is unacceptable, mostly for women (73,3%) as compared to men (48,3%). However, only less than a half (46,3%) of the working population support sanctions for the violation of smoking ban at indoor workplaces.

The vast majority (90%) of smokers among adult working population of the Krasnoyarsk Territory are aware of the negative effects of passive smoking, however, only 52,6% of smokers said they are ready to smoke only outside or in specially allotted places.

Attendance of cafes, restaurants and bars will not be affected by the introduction of total smoking bans, which corresponds to international practice. 90,8% of the working population who are now their patrons will continue to be such, and 16,9% of working individuals who did not attend them before because of the smoke will start visiting them.

Thus, we can conclude that according to the results of study adult working population sees banning smoking at indoor workplaces as an essential measure to reduce smoking and protect health.

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