

Smoking in migrants in New South Wales, Australia: Report on data from over 100 000 participants in the 45 and Up Study

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Reference:

Key Words:

smoking, immigrants and Australia born compared, health literacy

Research aim:

The aim of this study was to compare smoking characteristics of Australian migrants (in terms of place of birth and age migrated) to those of Australian-born residents based on data from the 45 and Up Study in Australia

Results/Conclusion:

Compared with Australian-born men, a higher proportion of men born in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East were current smokers, with odds ratios adjusted for age, income, education and place of residence. Compared with Australian-born women, a lower proportion of women from East (0.21; 0.12-0.36) and Southeast Asia (0.38; 0.26-0.54) were current smokers and a higher proportion of women from New Zealand (1.45; 1.17-1.79) and the UK/Ireland (1.25; 1.12-1.40) were current smokers. Among women born in Asia, the risk of smoking increased significantly the younger they migrated to Australia. Duration smoked and amount smoked per day were primarily lower among migrants than Australian-born.

Implications:

Smoking prevalence varies substantially across cultural subgroups. Understanding smoking dynamics across diverse cultural groups will assist in better targeting of tobacco control programs.

Cultural Group(s):

CALD

Location of study:

New South Wales

Age group:

45+

Number included in study:

53,207 women, 48,777 men

Type of participants:

men and women aged 45+ from diverse cultural backgrounds and Australia born

Research approach:

Quantitative

Type of data:

Secondary

Secondary data sources used:

The 45 and Up Study

Specific scales or analytical techniques used:

Implications/ Recommendations:

Notes: