

The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society fully supports the proposal of Food & Health Bureau and Department of Health on three new tobacco control measures:

- 1. increasing the size of pictorial health warning to 85%,**
- 2. regulation of e-cigarettes, and**
- 3. extension of smoking ban to bus interchange at tunnel portal areas.**

In the past 52 years, the Society has been reaching out into different sectors of the community and working to educate the public to understand the danger of smoking including passive smoking in cancer development and empower them to take early action to modify their behavior in cancer prevention. Eradicating smoking-related cancers is one of our long-term objectives.

Our rationales:

- 1. Smoking is unarguably the most dangerous carcinogens to human in the world.**
- 2. Tobacco causes an estimated 22% of all cancer death and an estimated total of 1.6 million in 2004 globally, according to latest figures on the WHO website.**
- 3. Worldwide, around 80% of lung cancer in men & 50% in women are caused by tobacco smoking.**
- 4. In Hong Kong, cancer is a major health problem. According to data provided by the HK Cancer Registry, there was a total of 27,848 new cancer cases and 13,336 deaths registered in 2012.**
- 5. During the past decade (2002-2012), the number of cancer in HK rose at an average annual rate of 2.5% whereas the population grew at an annual rate of 0.6% according to data provided by the HK Cancer Registry.**
- 6. Lung cancer is the most common and most fatal cancer in Hong Kong since 1983**

when data collection system was initiated. According to the HK Cancer Registry, more than 4,600 new cases of lung cancer and 3,893 deaths were recorded in 2012, occupying 16.6% of all cancers.

7. Although the rising trend of lung cancer incidence is slowing down in recent years, the numbers of new cases is projected to continue to increase probably by 40% in year 2030 despite the current smoking ban as projected by the HK Cancer Registry.
8. Over 90% of lung cancer patients were ever smokers. The more, longer and younger they smoke, the higher the risk of contracting lung cancer.
9. The lifetime risk of lung cancer up to 75 years old in men is 1 in 19, and 1 in 40 in women, again based on the data from the HK Cancer Registry.
10. Lung cancer has one of the lowest survival rates of all cancers. 29.2% of all cancer deaths were contributed by lung cancer. The 2nd commonest cancer, colorectal cancer owes 14.3%.
11. Smoking not only causes lung cancer but also increases the risk of oral cavity, pharynx, larynx, oesophagus, pancreas, urinary bladder, renal pelvis, nasal cavities, nasal sinuses, stomach, liver, kidney and uterine cervix cancers. Smoking is believed to be a predisposing factor for many cancers such as female breast, colorectal cancer, leukaemia, etc.
12. Smoking is the most preventable factor in cancer prevention.
13. The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society educates people never to start smoking, quit smoking and to avoid passive smoking.
14. The Hong Kong Anti-Cancer Society advocates education should start in family from childhood and strengthen in schools.