

Thesis Title            Smoking Behavior and Justification  
                              Among Physicians in Siriraj and  
                              Ramathibodi Hospitals Bangkok, Thailand.

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Date of Graduation.    23 May B.E. 2537 (1994)

#### ABSTRACT.

A cross sectional study about behaviour and justification with regard to smoking among physicians working in Siriraj and Ramathibodi hospitals was carried out from March 21 - April 25, 1994. Data were collected through self administered questionnaire. Out of 196 sample number of 17 was current smokers, 66 were ex smoker and 113 were never smoke.

No current smoker was found in female only 3 ex-smoker was found. Smoking prevalence was found less comparatively in younger age group. Most of the current and

ex smoker had started their smoking in teen age and initiated by their friends or classmates.

Many physicians perceived that smoking has impact on relief effects i.e. on anxiety, stress, irritation. Those who never smoked or nowadays do not smoke justify that they do not smoke to protect their own health and to avoid unpleasant symptoms.

The force of habit was the major reason that current & ex smoker referred to, followed by work and job stress. It was found that almost all of them seriously tried to stop their smoking and also they curdle their daily consumption of tobacco. About pattern of smoking habit striking findings is that more than half of them smoke in presence of children.

Although almost all physicians did not allow smoking in their offices, examining and waiting rooms. But most of them rarely gave advice to stop smoking for their patients. They gave more attention to lung and pulmonary patients in giving advice to stop smoking but less so in other conditions. Interesting enough, the findings showed that physicians provide little advise to heart patients.