



<http://www.nyu.edu/dental/tobacco>
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MTCP's Efforts to Help Low Income & Disadvantaged Smokers to Quit Smoking

Smoking is a Serious Problem Among Manhattan's Low Income and Disadvantaged Populations:

73.5 % of low income smokers residing in New York City have tried to quit in the past year

65% smokers do not have a primary health care provider

18.3 % of heavy smokers reside in East and Central Harlem

26.3% of low-income heavy smokers live in Manhattan

48.6% smokers have Medicare

33.9% smokers have Medicaid

38.8% smokers are uninsured

How MTCP is helping this population quit smoking:

The Manhattan Tobacco Cessation Program (MTCP), housed at the New York University College of Dentistry, seeks to partner with healthcare institutions whose patient populations are mainly uninsured, low-income, Medicare and Medicaid members.

Since inception, we have distributed **over 5,000 boxes of nicotine replacement therapy** to various partner health care institutions to distribute to their low-income smoking population in an effort to help them to quit smoking.

Other MTCP efforts include the following:

- Train health care staff in smoking cessation counseling and use of nicotine replacement therapy
- Provide nicotine replacement therapy to medical providers to give to their patients free of charge
- Provide health care professionals and patients with tobacco education materials
- Encourage health care staff to refer their patients to the New York State Quitline and Fax-to-Quit Program to obtain free counseling and medications
- Inform and educate providers on the Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements and prescription benefits for patients

MTCP counts the following health care institutions as partners:

Gouverneur Health Services • New York Presbyterian Hospital and Outpatient Ambulatory Care Clinics • Gay Men's Health Crisis • Daytop Village • Third Street Homeless Shelter • Bowery Mission • Mount Sinai Adolescent Clinic • Veteran Affairs Manhattan Hospital • Harlem United • New York University College of Dentistry Clinic • Bellevue Hospital • Beth Israel's Peter Krueger HIV Clinic • Beth Israel's Robert Mapplethorpe Residential Facility • Institute for Family Health

Why are MTCP's services important?

- The odds of quitting are significantly higher when health care professionals provide their patients brief advice to quit
- As of 2008, 53.2% of smokers in New York State have attempted to quit
- There are still 2.5 million adult smokers in New York State and 75% of these smokers say they want to quit

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