Hispanic/Latino smokers less likely to be advised to quit smoking by their doctors

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**Doctors don’t advise their Hispanic/Latinx patients to quit smoking as often as their white patients**

Dear Editor,

SHARE THAT A [NEW ARTICLE](https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2020/19_0279.htm) FROM THE U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION REPORTS THAT DOCTORS WERE LESS LIKELY TO GIVE QUITTING ADVICE TO HISPANIC/LATINX PATIENTS WHO SMOKE THAN THEY WERE TO WHITE PATIENTS WHO SMOKE. SHARE THAT THE DATA WAS COLLECTED FROM 2000-2015.

DISCUSS HOW THIS NEWS MAKES YOU FEEL. SHOULDN’T ALL SMOKERS GET THE BEST CHANCE TO QUIT, AND RECEIVE THE SAME AMOUNT OF ADVICE AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM THEIR DOCTOR? WHAT DO YOU THINK CAN BE DONE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE (MORE CULTURALLY COMPETENT MATERIALS, ETC.)?

NOW DISCUSS HOW TOBACCO USE IMPACTS THE HISPANIC/LATINX COMMUNITY. YOU CAN FIND EXAMPLES AT <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/disparities/hispanics-latinos/index.htm>. POINT OUT THAT THE TOLL TOBACCO TAKES ON THE POPULATION MAKES IT EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAT HISPANIC/LATINX GET THE HELP THEY NEED TO QUIT.

SHARE THAT A SPANISH LANGUAGE QUIT LINE IS AVAILABLE TO HELP HISPANIC/LATINX TOBACCO USERS QUIT FOR FREE. PROVIDE THE SPANISH LANGUAGE QUIT LINE NUMBER OF 877-2NO-FUME (266-3863). ALSO LET READERS KNOW THAT FREE HELP IS AVAILABLE FOR MEDICAID RECIPIENTS THAT USE TOBACCO. FEEL FREE TO MENTION ANY LOCAL, POPULATION-SPECIFIC RESOURCES AS WELL. ENCOURAGE READERS TO TALK TO THEIR DOCTOR ABOUT QUITTING SMOKING – EVEN IF THEIR DOCTOR DOES NOT ASK THEM ABOUT TOBACCO USE OR OFFER QUITTING ADVICE.