

Material of Support to Community Health Agents for the Tobacco Approach of "Family Health" in Brazil

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ABSTRACT

In Brazil, the Community Health Agent (ACS), inserted in the Basic Attention Program, due to the characteristics of its work, maintains a proximity to the families that is especially conducive to a sensitization approach to adolescent, pregnant, and elderly smokers the damage caused by tobacco smoking disease. When realizing the difficulty of cessation in the modality of brief approach, it can advise and refer to other professionals for an intensive treatment in a health unit. In view of these considerations, the National Cancer Institute, developed specific material for the community health agent in the National Program for Tobacco Control.

METHODOLOGY

The Community Health Agent received pilot training for a brief approach in a municipality in the south of Brazil with face-to-face classes. After that, they received a booklet with guidelines on smoking in pregnant women, adolescents, passive smoking, smoking cessation benefits, among others. The material was used 30 days during home visits. At the end of this period, they answered the questionnaire for evaluation with questions regarding size, weight, language, pertinence and contents of the booklet.

RESULTS

In the face of the positive evaluation, the booklet became available to all the states of the country as an important support tool for the Community Health Agents, as well as complementation of the training, and was inserted in the Smoking Control for Brief Approach.



CONCLUSIONS

The provision of material to the Community Health Agent as the booklet allowed more people to have access to information about smoking, especially those who live in places that often only the dimensions of a country such as Brazil.