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**Title:** Success rate of a trans-disciplinary in-hospital smoking cessation program

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**Body:** Background At our institution a smoking cessation program is established, but is under-utilized in the in-hospital setting. One reason could be the absent or non-obvious association between smoking and the actual patient's diagnosis. We speculated if the implementation of a structured survey of the smoking status including a mini-intervention and the direct start of the smoking cessation counselling in the in-hospital setting would increase the rate of a successful quit attempt after 6 month. Methods In 3 hospital wards (pulmonary, cardiologic and gynaecologic/obstetric) with a awareness of the risk of smoking we interviewed between May and Oct 2012 any incoming patient about the smoking status and performed a mini-intervention in smokers. We started smoking cessation counselling within 24 h. The participating patients were counselled according established local programs including nicotine-replacement and pharmacotherapy and were systematically readvised. Results The prevalence of smoking patients on the three wards was 8.7% (7.8%-9.6%). The prevalence in the patient population was lower, than in the actual Swiss population (24.8%).The rate of successful smoking cessation after 6 month was 34.5% respectively, which compares favorably with the published 6-month smoking cessation rate in an out-patient setting of 24.7%. Conclusion We observed a high success rate of a smoking cessation counselling program that starts immediately in the in-hospital setting. This might be due to the high situational awareness of the potential harm of smoking. The smokers' prevalence in these wards was much lower than expected and compared with the prevalence in the Swiss population, presumably due to past quit attempts.