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Title: Smoking and interstitial lung diseases

Dr. Elzbieta 26465 Puscinska e.puscinska@igichp.edu.pl MD ¹, Dr. Anna 26466 Goljan-Geremek a.goljan@gmail.com MD ¹, Dr. Elzbieta 26467 Radzikowska e.radzikowska@wp.pl MD ², Dr. Anna 26468 Soszka soszka.wojciech@gmail.com MD ³, Dr. Dorota 26469 Wyrostkiewicz d.wyrostkiewicz@igichp.edu.pl MD ³, Dr. Michal 26471 Bednarek mj.bednarek@gmail.com MD ¹ and Prof. Dr Dorota 26474 Gorecka dmgorecka@o2.pl MD ¹. ¹ Department of Respiratory Medicine, Institute of Tb & Lung Diseases Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, 01-138 Plocka 26 ; ² Department of Lung Diseases, Institute of Tb & Lung Diseases Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, 01-138 Plocka 26 and ³ First Department of Lung Diseases, Institute of Tb & Lung Diseases Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, 01-138 Plocka 26 and 3 First Department of Lung Diseases, Institute of Tb & Lung Diseases Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland, 01-138 Plocka 26 .

**Body:** Aim: The relationship of smoking with some interstitial lung diseases (ILDs) has been published. The aim of the study was to evaluate smoking habits among our ILDs patients(pts). Methods: Consecutive pts admitted to the hospital were divided into two groups; sarcoid-group1, other ILDs-group2.Results:236 pts were studied.Group1-177pts(98M /79F) vs 59pts(27M/32F) - group2.The average age was 49±12.1y.In group1,103pts(58%) were ever smokers(ES), 26(14%) current smokers(CS), in group2, 37pts(63%)were ES, 4(7%) CS. The average age of smoking initiation was 18.7±3,4y in group1 and 18.5±4.2y in group2,p=ns.ln group1 women started smoking later than men (19.8±3.4y vs 17.9±3.1),p>0.05.ln group2 the mean number of cigarettes per day was 13.4±8.1 for women vs 19.5±8.2 for men,p>0.05. The average age of sarcoid smokers was significantly lower vs to non-smokers; 46.11± 12.02y vs 52±11.06y,p>0.05. The average age of CS was significantly lower than ex-smokers(XS) 41±13.3y vs 49±11.3y,p>0.05.Among CS, smoking exposure was longer vs XS 20.3±8.9y vs 13.4±8.6y,p>0.05.In group1 150 pts(89 smokers(S)/61 never smokers(NS) were exposed to secondhand smoke(shs) at home, 108(68 S /40 NS) at work vs 45(29 S/16 NS) were exposed to shs at home, 36(22 S/14 NS) at work from group2. Smokers (90) exposed to shs at work vs smokers (50) not exposed, smoked longer 19.3 vs 13.7 y,p>0.05 and smoked in average more cigarettes per day 14.7 vs 12.1,p>0.05. Sarcoid smokers (68) exposed to shs at work, smoked more cigarettes per day vs those who were not exposed (35), 14.1 vs 11.0,p>0.05.Conclusions:The prevalence of smoking was high among pts with ILDs. Exposure to shs must be taken into account regardless of whether a patient is a smoker himself.SHS may affect smoking habits.