

About Cigarettes

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My early knowledge on cigarettes started at the Brompton Chest Hospital in London in 1953; subsequently at Bellevue Hospital in New York and at the Faculty of Medicine Siriraj Hospital in Bangkok. As a chest physician I gained specialist experience with diseases from cigarette smoking, i.e. chronic bronchitis, chronic pulmonary emphysema and lung cancer.

While working at Siriraj Hospital, I started a Smokers' Clinic⁽¹⁾ to achieve smoking cessation for the addicts. It was a total failure as success in cigarette smoking cessation at that time was patients' expiration. Of course I had tried many methods for smokers to quit smoking. For instance, the practice of nicotine chewing gum strategy⁽²⁾ not only conferred failure of quitting, but instead prompted smokers' appreciation and benefit of gaining more nicotine!

Some years ago, there was news about electronic cigarettes and their potential for smoking cessation, but the Thai government immediately banned electronic cigarettes in the country. I was somehow undisturbed by the event.

More recently an article entitled "Electronic Cigarettes" was published in the 2018 April issue of the RACP Internal Medicine Journal⁽³⁾ showing that it is highly possible to assist the cessation of addiction to the burning tobacco cigarettes that emit of toxic substances including carcinogens

that adversely impact smokers' health. I then published a paper titled "electronic cigarettes" in the Thammasart Medical Journal 2018 April-June issue.⁽⁴⁾

Presently, my knowledge of the Heat not Burn Cigarettes (HNBC) came after calls from two Philip Morris International's executive officers. They presented me with a pile of scientific documents relating to the new noncombustible cigarettes consistent with my knowledge that it is highly possible to use electronic cigarettes to assist the cessation of addiction to the burning tobacco cigarettes that emit of toxic substances including carcinogens that adversely impact smokers' health with their smoking related serious complications such as chronic bronchitis, pulmonary emphysema and bronchial cancers. To address the concerns of physicians with the new invention, I am preparing another article on electronic cigarettes including HNBC for the 2018 June issue of another Thai Medical Journal.⁽⁵⁾

References

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