

# ANTI-SMOKING POLICY



ASTANA MEDICAL  
UNIVERSITY

Astana  
2024

Tobacco use is widespread all over the world and remains a serious threat to human health. Every year, more than 8 million people per year die from the effects of tobacco use, among which more than 7 million deaths occur among tobacco users, and about 1.2 million among non-smokers who were exposed to second-hand smoke. According to WHO, the number of smokers in the world is about 1.1 billion, and about 8 million people die from the effects of tobacco use every year.

According to data for 2022, at least 37 million young people aged 13-15 years use tobacco in one form or another worldwide. In the WHO European Region, 11,594 boys and 10,194 girls aged 13-15 years use tobacco (a total of 4 million people).

The indicator in Kazakhstan is one of the highest in the world - 22,494 or 2,822 thousand people, 42,494 among men, 4.5% among women. The proportion of daily smokers is 19.1 0/0. The most active consumers are smokers aged 25-44 years.

Compared with the data of the Global Tobacco Use Survey among Young People of Kazakhstan for 2014 (Global youth tobacco survey, GYTS), from 2014 to 2018, the number of e-cigarette users tripled among boys from 294 in 2014 to 694 in 2018 and doubled among girls from 1,194 to 294.

The measures taken to combat in the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- The age limit for the purchase of tobacco products has been increased from 18 to 21 years.

- A ban has been introduced on the display and open demonstration of tobacco products at points of sale, including products made from heated tobacco, hookah tobacco, hookah mixture, heating systems for tobacco, electronic consumption systems and liquids for them.

- A ban has been introduced on the use of tobacco and tobacco products by minors, including products made from heated tobacco, hookah tobacco, hookah mixture, electronic consumption systems and liquids for them. It is prohibited to import, manufacture, sell and distribute non-smoking tobacco products.

- The size of graphic warnings about the dangers of tobacco consumption has been increased to 6594 of the area of the larger side of a pack of tobacco products, tobacco product packaging, including packaging of products with heated tobacco, hookah tobacco, hookah system.

In January 2024, the Majilis of Kazakhstan approved a draft law restricting the consumption of tobacco products, according to which the maximum penalty for the sale of vapes is arrest for up to 50 days. And for importation and distribution — imprisonment for up to two years.

The Republic of Kazakhstan has adopted the following policy measures for the prevention of tobacco smoking:

- WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control of May 21, 2003;
- Six MPOWER measures (Monitor, Protect, Offer, Warn, Enforce, Raise) (WHO 2008);

- Global Strategy to Accelerate Tobacco Control: promoting sustainable development through the implementation of the WHO FCTC in October 2018.
- The Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan "On the Health of the people and the healthcare system" dated July 7, 2020;
- Technical Regulations of the Eurasian Economic Commission;
- National project "High-quality and affordable healthcare for every citizen "Healthy Nation";
- The concept of healthcare development of the Republic of Kazakhstan until 2026, Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan No.141 dated February 29, 2024.

**NpJSC Astana Medical University** (hereinafter referred to as the University) follows a national policy on the prevention and restriction of tobacco consumption (smoking) aimed at maintaining a healthy lifestyle, clean indoor air and declares itself a smoke-free zone.

Smoking is prohibited in the University premises - all public places are designated as non-smoking areas. The smoking ban policy applies to all premises inside the University. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas.

The University promotes a healthy lifestyle without smoking and implements measures to inform students, teachers and university staff about the dangers of smoking, as well as aimed at preventing the spread of smoking among young people.

In accordance with paragraph 5 of Article 110 of the Code "On the Health of the People and the Health care system", the consumption of tobacco products is prohibited in:

- 1) educational organizations, as well as organizations for recreation of minors;
- 2) healthcare organizations;
- 3) public catering establishments;
- 4) cinemas, theaters, circuses, concert, viewing and exhibition halls, sports arenas and other indoor facilities intended for mass recreation, including nightclubs, discos;
- 5) museums, libraries and lecture halls;
- 6) in unidentified places on trains and on ships of sea and river transport;
- 6-1) on board an aircraft, in the cabins of buses, minibuses when transporting passengers, trolleybuses, taxis and urban rail transport;
- 7) buildings of airports, railway, automobile and water stations;
- 8) government agencies and organizations;
- 9) premises that are workplaces;
- 10) entrances of houses.

The University's Administrative Council has decided to introduce a strict anti-smoking policy. From now on, teachers and students are strictly prohibited from smoking on the university grounds, otherwise they face dismissal or expulsion. These measures have been taken to promote a healthy lifestyle, as well as compliance with the directives of the Ministry of Health and WHO.

As part of anti-smoking measures, signs "Smoking is prohibited" are installed in front of educational buildings. The same signs appeared on other objects located

in the university space: on the buildings of dormitories, the institute clinic, pharmacy, scientific and medical library, as well as medical institutions where the clinical bases of the medical University are located.

The policy is intended for students, faculty, managers and employees of the University's structural units involved in the organization of the academic process, and other interested parties.

The responsibility for the development and management of this Policy in accordance with the requirements of the internal documents of the University is borne by the deans of schools, the Center for Social and Educational work, the center for quality assurance.

Responsible persons involved in the educational process organized according to the credit technology of education (deans of schools, center for social and educational work, departments) are responsible for the implementation of the requirements of this Policy in the activities of the University.