

PROJECT SUMMARY

Overview: The Healis-Sekhsaria Institute for Public Health in Navi Mumbai and the Harvard School of Public Health, US are working together on an innovative tobacco control research study in twenty-four manufacturing worksites in the Greater Mumbai area. The Mumbai Worksite Study aims to promote tobacco use cessation through a comprehensive tobacco control and occupational health intervention. This integrated approach of linking tobacco control and occupational health has been demonstrated to be effective in US worksites. Our goal is to explore how this approach could be adapted in Indian worksites and then test its effectiveness in manufacturing facilities. Participation in the study is completely free for worksites.

Aims: This 5-year study aims to adapt, test, package, and disseminate an effective tobacco control and occupational health intervention in Indian worksites. Assuming this trial demonstrates this intervention to be effective, we will prepare the program materials for dissemination by the end of Year 5.

Intervention: The proposed intervention is comprised of intervention activities for employees and consultation with management to support changes in the work environment. The Mumbai Worksite Study proposes to work onsite with employees through group educational sessions with a health educator. Over the course of the year, the health educator will visit each worksite 8 times to educate employees about the risks associated with tobacco use and the benefits of quitting. Health educators will also work with employees to increase their motivation, skills, and social support to quit using tobacco. The study also proposes to concurrently work with employers to implement tobacco control policies in the workplace. These policies will address all forms of tobacco use, not only smoking.

Additionally, the study wants to explore ways to work with employers to reduce the potential for exposure to hazards on the job.