
The
Health Consequences
of SMOKING

1968 SUPPLEMENT TO THE
1967 Public Health Service Review



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Foreword

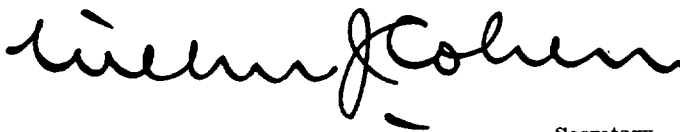
Section 5(d)(1) of Public Law 89-92, the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act, requires the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to submit an annual report to the Congress "concerning (A) current information on the health consequences of smoking and (B) such recommendations for legislation as he may deem appropriate." This 1968 Supplement to the 1967 Public Health Service review, "The Health Consequences of Smoking", was prepared for the Secretary pursuant to this section. The Secretary's report was delivered to the Congress on July 1, 1968. It is printed below.

The information presented in the accompanying report, "The Health Consequences of Smoking, 1968 Supplement," confirms or strengthens the conclusions of two previous studies published by this Department—the 1964 Report of the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee on Smoking and Health, and the 1967 Report on the Health Consequences of Smoking.

These conclusions are that smoking is a serious health hazard in this country, one which is bringing about much unnecessary disease and death within our population. In the words of the 1964 Report, adequate remedial action is required. In my opinion, the remedial action taken until now has not been adequate.

I therefore recommend:

1. The warning statement required by the Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act should be strengthened. This Department would support the wording recommended last year by the Federal Trade Commission, or a suitable paraphrase of the wording.*
2. This warning should be required to be placed not only on the cigarette package but on cigarette vending machines and in all advertisements.
3. Levels of "tar" and nicotine in cigarette smoke should be published on cigarette packages, on cigarette vending machines, and in all advertisements. Authorization is also needed to make it possible to add other harmful agents to this listing.
4. Appropriations should be made to the Federal Trade Commission to permit the Commission to test all cigarette brands on a quarterly basis for "tar" and nicotine and other harmful agents in cigarette smoke.



Secretary.

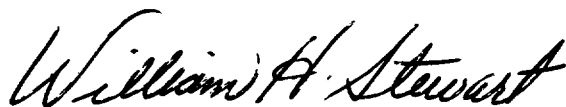
* The wording recommended by the Federal Trade Commission (Report to Congress, June 30, 1967) was "Warning: Cigarette Smoking is Dangerous to Health and May Cause Death from Cancer and Other Diseases."

Preface

The following pages provide a review of current information on the health consequences of smoking. As will be seen, the evidence attesting to the harmful effect of smoking on health has continued to mount during the past year, with new research findings confirming the clinical, experimental, and epidemiological relationships between tobacco smoking and many forms of illness related to it. The convergence of research findings continues without substantial negative scientific evidence. New considerations are presented concerning some bio-mechanism involved in the pathogenesis of cardiovascular and bronchopulmonary diseases.

This 1968 Supplemental Report reviews the recent research literature on cardiovascular disease, chronic bronchopulmonary disease and cancer that has become available since *The Health Consequences of Smoking, A Public Health Service Review: 1967* was published. This publication in turn was a review of the research literature which had appeared in the 3½ years since the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee issued its monumental report in 1964. The current research findings should be considered in the perspective of the research evidence previously presented in the 1964 and 1967 reports.

Problems created by cigarette smoking have made this a difficult health issue. Effective preventive programs must be created if we are to meet smoking's grave challenge to human health successfully and reduce the burden of suffering and economic loss involved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "William H. Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial "W".

Surgeon General.

Acknowledgments

The National Clearinghouse for Smoking and Health, Daniel Horn, Ph. D., Director, was responsible for the preparation of this report; Albert C. Kolbye, Jr., M.D., M.P.H., LL.B., was senior editor and David G. Wember, M.D., was staff director.

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Contents

	Page
Foreword.....	iii
Preface.....	v
Acknowledgments.....	vi
Part I. Current Information on the Health Consequences of Smoking.....	1
Highlights of the Report.....	3
Smoking and Overall Mortality.....	5
Part II. Technical Reports on the Relationship of Smoking to Specific Disease Categories.....	11
Chapter 1. Smoking and Cardiovascular Diseases..	13
Chapter 2. Smoking and Chronic Bronchopul- monary Diseases (Non-neoplastic).....	63
Chapter 3. Smoking and Cancer.....	87