



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

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National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda, Maryland 20892  
[www.nih.gov](http://www.nih.gov)

John R. Polito  
Nicotine Cessation Educator  
Editor WhyQuit.com  
106 Aldrich Place  
Goose Creek, South Carolina 29445

Re: FOIA Case No. 37918

Dear Mr. Polito:

This responds to your August 13, 2010, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request addressed to Howard Koh, Assistant Secretary of Health, Department of Health and Human Services. Your request was referred to National Institutes of Health (NIH) FOIA Office on August 16 for a direct response because of our responsibilities under the FOIA. You asked for copies of all HHS real-world quitting method survey findings since June 2000. Specifically, you requested all survey results in which the U.S. Government asked smokers how they quit smoking, as unlike non-existent placebo quitting this data clearly evidences "their chances." In an email to me dated August 16 you further clarified your request to be for "short-summary reports sharing actual survey results."

We searched the files of the appropriate components of NIH for responsive records. The search produced information that is available on the National Cancer Institute (NCI) website; it did not produce any hard-copy records or "short-summary reports." We were advised by the NCI that they sponsor three surveys that include questions asking smokers how they quit smoking. Those surveys are: (1) Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey (TUS-CPS), (2) Cancer Control Supplement to the National Health Interview Survey (NHIS-CCS), and (3) Health Information National Trends Survey (HINTS).

Regarding TUS-CPS: This is a survey of tobacco use that is administered as part of the U.S. Census Bureau's and Bureau of Labor Statistics' Current Population Survey. The 2003 and the 2006-2007 TUS-CPS included questions about methods for quitting smoking. A summary report on the 2003 TUS-CPS survey findings is available at <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps/results/data03/>. Table 5 of this summary report contains information about the use of Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) during quit attempts. A summary report on the 2006-2007 TUS-CPS survey findings is available at: <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps/results/data0607/>. Table 5 of this summary report contains information about the use of telephone quit lines and receipt of advice from a health professional. The 2010-2011 TUS-CPS also includes questions about methods for quitting smoking; results are not yet available because this survey is currently in the field. There is additional detailed information about the TUS-CPS available at <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps/>, which includes an option to

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search for published articles at: <http://riskfactor.cancer.gov/studies/tus-cps/publications.html> .

Regarding NHIS- CCS: This is a survey that includes questions about methods for quitting smoking. Detailed information about the NHIS-CCS is available at <http://appliedresearch.cancer.gov/surveys/nhis/>. A bibliography of publications that utilize the NHIS-CCS data is available at: <http://appliedresearch.cancer.gov/cgi-bin/pubsearch/pubsearch/index.pl?initiative=NHIS>. No summary reports concerning methods of quitting are available about the NHIS-CCS.

Regarding HINTS: This long-term survey includes questions about awareness and use of quit lines for smoking cessation, in some years. Detailed information about HINTS is available at: <http://hints.cancer.gov/index.jsp>. Research studies that utilize the HINTS data set are available at <http://hints.cancer.gov/results.jsp>. No summary reports concerning methods of quitting are available about HINTS.

Provisions of the FOIA allow us to recover part of the cost of complying with your request. Because no unusual circumstances apply to the processing of your request, there is no charge associated with our response.

Sincerely,

*Connie A. Wivel*

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