



ECONOMIC COST OF SMOKING IN WALES

- ✓ Smoking cost NHS Wales an estimated £386 million in 2007/08; equivalent to £129 per head and 7% of total healthcare expenditure in Wales¹.
- ✓ Secondary care accounts for 67% of the total cost and primary care 33%. £235.6 million is spent on hospital admissions and £21.5 million on outpatient attendances, while £43.1 million is spent on GP consultations, £6.2 million on practice nurse consultations and £79.3 million on prescriptions².
- ✓ Smoking accounts overall for an estimated 22% of adult hospital admission costs, 6% of outpatient costs, 13% of GP consultation costs, 12% of practice nurse consultation costs and 14% of prescription costs³.
- ✓ These costs do not take into account the costs from:
 - Lost productivity
 - Lost quality of life in Wales.
 - Fires
 - Dental treatment

COST TO INDUSTRY

- ✓ Smoking results in lost productivity caused by smoking breaks and increased absenteeism amongst smokers due to ill-health.
- ✓ Each year about 34 million days are lost in England and Wales through sickness absence caused by smoking.
- ✓ The estimated cost of absenteeism from work caused by smoking in Wales (2003 prices) was £23. 28 million ⁴
- ✓ Cost of fire damage attributable to smoking in Wales (2003 prices) was £5.95 million ⁵

COST TO SMOKERS

- ✓ A 20-a-day smoker will spend about £2000 a year on cigarettes.

¹ Phillips, C. and Bloodworth, A. (2009). The cost of smoking to the NHS in Wales. ASH Wales and BHF

² Phillips, C. and Bloodworth, A. (2009). The cost of smoking to the NHS in Wales. ASH Wales and BHF

³ Phillips, C. and Bloodworth, A. (2009). The cost of smoking to the NHS in Wales. ASH Wales and BHF

⁴ Cohen, D and Lises, C. (2005) Modeling the Impact of a Ban on Smoking in Public Places in Wales (unpublished)

⁵ Cohen, D and Lises, C. (2005) Modeling the Impact of a Ban on Smoking in Public Places in Wales (unpublished)