

American Academy of Pediatrics Tobacco Consortium Executive Summary

Overview:

The AAP Tobacco Consortium was founded in 2000 to serve as a catalyst to drive research into pediatric tobacco prevention and cessation. The Tobacco Consortium is a close network of established and early-career investigators who are passionate about protecting children, youth, and families from the dangers of tobacco and collectively, have advanced the field via collaborations on projects and publications, mentorship, and peer development across career stages. . The Consortium's research agenda includes youth tobacco prevention and cessation, eliminating children's exposure to tobacco smoke, tobacco-related policy issues and international tobacco control.

Composition:

The AAP Tobacco Consortium is made up of researchers committed to addressing tobacco as a child and adolescent health issue. The Tobacco Consortium chairperson and members serve two-year terms. The chairperson and members of the Consortium are recruited via periodic calls for membership; qualified applicants are nominated by the Tobacco Consortium Nominating Committee and approved by the AAP Executive Committee. Tobacco Consortium members convene virtually at quarterly meetings.

Research Priorities:

The Consortium explores cutting-edge research and literature synthesis using a participatory agenda-setting process among its members. Research priorities include: (1) development of a conceptual framework for child and adolescent tobacco research, including standardized measures and a defined landscape of environmental factors that influence tobacco and nicotine use and exposure, (2) implementation of basic science, clinical, and translational research studies to address tobacco and nicotine use and exposure, (3) collaboration between practitioners and the research community, and (4) mentorship and support for early-career researchers.

Achievements and Impact on the Field:

AAP Tobacco Consortium members are active in the implementation and dissemination of research and many hold leadership roles related to tobacco control. Collectively, members of the Consortium have led over 190 research studies in the US and internationally; these studies have been funded by the US government and private foundations. As of 2022, Consortium members have published over 950 tobacco-related peer-reviewed publications in scientific journals. The group has championed the importance of researching children's exposure to tobacco smoke and advanced the science to address this public health issue.

Research from the Consortium has driven policy change, including smokefree housing laws and raising the tobacco purchase age to 21 years.