

# Call of Abstracts - "International conference on the E-Cigarette: patterns of use and health impacts"



## Call of abstracts

"International conference on the E-Cigarette: patterns of use and health impacts" - Paris, on 5-6th December 2022

### Submission form

Poster & oral presentation

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### Background information

#### Type of submission

Poster

#### Theme of conference

Patterns of use

## Keywords

Harm reduction

Smoking cessation

Vulnerable populations

## Abstract title

Process Evaluation for Smoking Cessation Trial in Centres for the Homeless (SCETCH): Preliminary findings

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## Abstract details (poster & oral)

### Background, method, results and conclusions

**Background:** In the UK, people experiencing homelessness have a smoking prevalence rate of up to four times the average. There are marked health inequalities, with this population likely to live 30 years less than the general population. Most of this excess mortality may be due to tobacco smoking. Despite complex circumstances, the feasibility study demonstrated that it is possible to recruit this population, that participants were willing to attempt smoking cessation, and that the e cigarette-based intervention was feasible to deliver. The wider trial aimed to ascertain effectiveness. An embedded process evaluation aims to explore fidelity of intervention delivery; mechanisms of change; contextual influences and sustainability.

**Methods:** Cluster RCT, comparing the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of providing free Electronic Cigarette (EC) starter kits to people who smoke accessing homeless centres compared with usual care. Recruiting centres (n=32) across Scotland, Wales and England. The embedded mixed methods process evaluation purposely sampled eight centres in the EC arm for in-depth interviews with staff (n=2 per centre) and participants (n=4 per centre). Interviews were thematically analysed.

**Results:** Initial findings from interviews suggest that organisational, contextual and geographical contexts influence implementation. The mechanisms through which smoking behaviour may have changed are influenced by the culture of the centre and the context where social support is provided, or not.

**Conclusions:** A finding of the feasibility study was that the building of trust, communication and relationships between participants (and researchers) and centre staff was key. The current findings support this, although the impact of contextual factors on the primary outcome remains to be seen. Initial findings suggest that strong and positive relationships with researchers and centre staff are central to successful delivery of the EC intervention.

### Main messages

Process evaluation is essential in understanding the 'real world' implementation of e-cigarette-based interventions aimed at vulnerable groups. Findings will ultimately illuminate trial efficacy outcomes by providing an explanatory context.

### Type of study / research

Qualitative

## Geography of the study

Europe

## Funding of study

### Federal source

No

### State source

No

### Nonprofit Grant Funding Entity Source

No

### Nonprofit Grant Funding Entity Source

No

### Academic Institution Source

Yes

### Pharmaceutical Industry Source

No

### Tobacco/E-Cigarette Industry Source

No

## Declaration of interest

**The submitter declares that during the past 5 years have a direct nor indirect link (professional\*, personal or financial\*\*) with the tobacco and e-cigarette companies**

No