

American Association for Cancer Research, Inc.

Policy Statement Concerning Smoking

The following statement of policy was approved by the members of the Association in a mail ballot and adopted by the Board of Directors during the 59th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research in Atlantic City, New Jersey, on April 11-13, 1968:

Studies of the past two decades have demonstrated conclusively that tobacco smoke contains carcinogenic chemicals and that heavy cigarette smoking is closely correlated with an increased incidence of lung cancer (and other major diseases of the respiratory tract). There is no longer reasonable doubt that cigarette smoking is a major cause of lung cancer.

The members of the American Association for Cancer Research recognize the right of each individual to make his own decisions, insofar as they are not detrimental to the welfare of others. They also know that many persons start to smoke without a full awareness of the risks, and they realize that the smoking habit, once established, is not easily abandoned.

In view of these considerations, it is the policy of the American Association for Cancer Research to recognize and to publicize the correlation between cigarette smoking and lung cancer and to encourage educational and research programs that will decrease the amount of smoking and diminish risk from smoking. The Association endorses the programs of the American Cancer Society and the United States Public Health Service that are aimed at reducing the smoking habit as a health protection measure.

Also, it is requested that members of the Association and their guests do not smoke while in the meeting rooms at our Annual Meetings.