

[Hospital Name] is Going Tobacco-Free

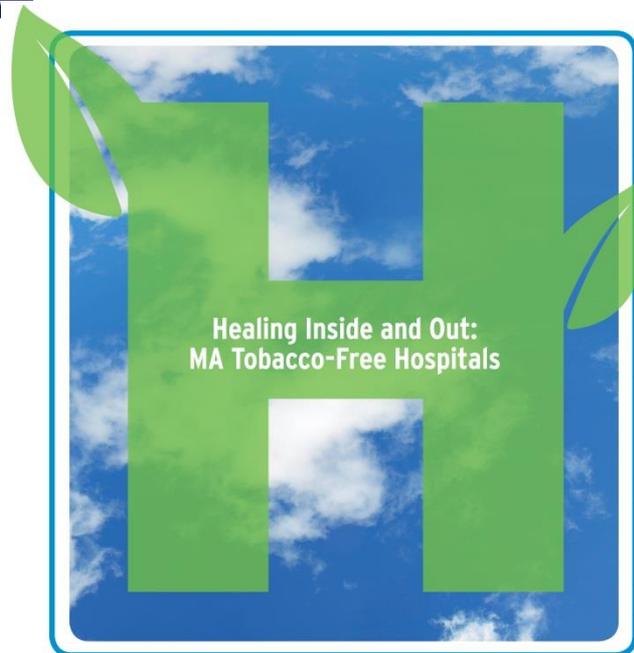
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MASSACHUSETTS
Health & Hospital
ASSOCIATION

Healing Inside and Out

- [Hospital Name] has joined a statewide initiative supported by the Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association (MHA) and the Department of Public Health to go Tobacco-Free



Tobacco Usage in Massachusetts

- Tobacco Facts
 - **Each year**, tobacco use is responsible for over 8,000 deaths in MA
 - Cigarette smokers are 2 to 4 times more likely to develop coronary heart disease than nonsmokers
 - Tobacco kills more people each year than motor vehicle crashes, AIDS, homicides, suicides and poisonings **combined**
- Second Hand Smoke
 - Nonsmokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke at home or work increase their heart disease risk by 25–30% and their lung cancer risk by 20–30%.
 - Secondhand smoke contains at least 250 chemicals known to be toxic, including more than 50 that can cause cancer

Economic Costs

- Smoking costs Massachusetts an estimated \$6.0 billion annually
 - 4.3 billion due to excess direct healthcare costs;
 - \$1.7 billion is from lost productivity due to premature death.
- Massachusetts spends over \$10 million each day in direct medical costs related to smoking.
- Massachusetts experiences \$4 million each day in lost productivity due to premature death from smoking.
- Each pack of cigarettes sold in Massachusetts costs the state an estimated \$15.33 in direct healthcare costs and \$6.08 in lost productivity.

Supporting Our Mission

- Hospitals are stewards of public health
 - As a healthcare organization, we are committed to providing patients, staff and visitors with a safe and healthy environment
- Eliminating tobacco use on the hospital property is an important step in carrying out our mission

What Tobacco-Free Means

- Use of tobacco products will not be allowed on the hospital property
- Removal of all designated smoking areas on campus
- No use of tobacco products in cars or parking lots
- All tobacco/smoking receptacles outside of the hospital will be removed

How Will this Affect Employees?

- Employees who use tobacco products will be asked to refrain from using tobacco on the hospital campus
 - Smoking cessation products and services will be made available to all who want them
- Signage will be posted to inform all who enter the hospital
- Employees will be asked to help support the initiative by reminding visitors of the new policy when they enter the facility

Benefits to Going Tobacco-Free

- Eliminating tobacco usage will make [hospital name] a healthier environment for employees, visitors and patients
- We will support and facilitate tobacco cessation efforts with community programs and employee benefits and incentives
- We will be more effective as healthcare providers in carrying out our mission