Tobacco Cessation

CHANGE PACKAGE
The Tobacco Cessation Change Package was created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with the purpose of helping healthcare professionals in outpatient, inpatient, and behavioral health settings, as well as public health professionals who partner with these groups, to implement systems and strategies that improve care for patients who use tobacco.

Authors
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Graphic Design and Editorial Assistance
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Website Hosting Assistance
Website hosting support of tools and resources was provided by the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors.

We would like to extend special thanks to the following organizations for their willingness to share tools and resources to improve smoking cessation, as further denoted within the Tobacco Cessation Change Package:

• American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP)
• American College of Cardiology (ACC)
• American Lung Association
• Arizona Smokers’ Helpline (ASHLine)
• California Quits
• California Smokers’ Helpline
• Cayuga Medical Center
• Center of Excellence for Health Systems Improvement for a Tobacco-Free New York
• Essentia Health
• Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin
• HealthyHearts NYC
• Heart Health Now!
• Hospitals Helping Patients Quit
• Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement (ICSI)
• Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI)
• Kansas Health Foundation
• Legacy (now Truth Initiative*)
• MultiCare Health System
• National Alliance on Mental Illness Kansas (NAMI KS)
• National Behavioral Health Network for Tobacco & Cancer Control
• National Cancer Institute (NCI)
• National Quality Forum (NQF)
• Navy and Marine Corps Public Health Center
• New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (NYC DOHMH)
• New York City Health + Hospitals (NYC Health + Hospitals)
• New York State Department of Health
• New York State Smokers’ Quitline
• North American Quitline Consortium (NAQC)
• Northern Lakes Community Mental Health
• Oklahoma Health Care Authority
• Oklahoma State Department of Health, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
• Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Trust (OK TSET)
• Oregon Health Authority
• Partnership for Prevention
• Plymouth Family Physicians
• Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
• Telligen
• University of California Quits (UC Quits)
• University of California, San Francisco Schools of Pharmacy and Medicine (UCSF Schools of Pharmacy & Medicine)
• University of California, San Francisco, Smoking Cessation Leadership Center (UCSF SCLC)
• University of Colorado, Anschutz Medical Campus (CU Anschutz Medical Campus)
• University of Maryland School of Medicine (UM Medicine)
• University of Wisconsin Health (UW Health)
• University of Wisconsin – Madison, School of Medicine and Public Health (UW-Madison SMPH)
• University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention (UW-CTRI)
• US Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
• Wisconsin Hospital Association
• Wisconsin Nicotine Treatment Integration Project (WiNTiP)

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Suggested Citation

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# Tobacco Cessation Change Package — Quick Reference

## Focus Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Foundations</th>
<th>Equipping Care Teams</th>
<th>Screening</th>
<th>Treatment</th>
<th>Referral and Follow-Up</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Approaches and tools to assess the current status of tobacco dependence treatment in your practice or system and to make tobacco dependence treatment a priority.</td>
<td>Approaches and tools to prepare and motivate healthcare staff to consistently address tobacco use.</td>
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## Change Concepts and Change Ideas

### Key Foundations

**Make Tobacco Cessation a Practice and System Priority**

- Identify one or two key champions and assemble a multidisciplinary team
- As a multidisciplinary group, conduct an assessment of your clinic/system and develop an action plan to address the current gaps
- Adopt or update a unit, practice, or system-wide policy to reflect prioritization of tobacco treatment

**Create a Supportive Environment for Cessation**

- Implement and strengthen hospital or clinic-wide tobacco-free or smoke-free campus policies
- Leverage mass-reach media campaigns to encourage and normalize quitting (e.g., with media in waiting rooms, throughout clinic or hospital system)
- Support employees and their family members in quitting smoking by providing health benefits for tobacco cessation

### Equipping Care Teams

**Equip All Staff to Engage in Tobacco Cessation Efforts**

- Adopt a clinician/staff training policy to train and retrain staff
- Conduct onboarding and annual trainings on tobacco policies, systems, and procedures
- Optimize billing practices by leveraging existing codes to capture all billable services

**Provide Clinician and System-Level Feedback on Progress and Impact**

- Set and communicate specific, measureable performance and quality goals
- Make tobacco cessation a quality improvement measure at the clinician or system level
- Track clinician, clinic, hospital, and system performance to provide feedback to clinicians and decision-makers
### Screening
*Approaches and tools that promote consistent universal screening for tobacco use (i.e., asking about tobacco use) as a prerequisite for intervening with patients or clients who use tobacco.*

**Make Tobacco Use a Vital Sign: Screen Every Patient for Tobacco Use at Every Visit**
- Adopt a tobacco use screening protocol
- Establish a workflow and determine roles for tobacco use screening and documentation
- Embed a tobacco use status prompt in the EHR or other patient record-keeping system
- Embed decision support scripts for screening into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system

### Treatment
*Approaches and tools to help ensure that patients or clients who use tobacco are consistently advised to quit, assessed for willingness to make a quit attempt, and offered assistance in quitting tobacco use.*

**Establish a Tobacco Treatment Protocol**
- Implement a treatment intervention
- Establish a workflow to determine roles for delivering the treatment intervention

**Enhance Clinical Decision Support**
- Embed treatment intervention prompts into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system
- Embed decision support scripts for each intervention step into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system
- Implement standard order sets for counseling and medication
- Adopt tools to guide medication selection

**Implement Standardized Approaches to Support Cessation Efforts**
- Deliver standard patient education regarding cessation medication
- Adopt a clinical decision support tool for helping patients plan their quit attempt

### Referral and Follow-Up
*Approaches and tools for arranging follow-up for patients or clients who use tobacco and for providing referral to internal or external resources that can serve as an adjunct to treatment provided by the clinician.*

**Establish Protocols to Identify and Connect Patients to Referral Resources**
- Implement a protocol or workflow to ensure clinician follow-up with patients
- Identify and partner with referral services that can serve as an adjunct to care
- Set up direct referrals to internal and external resources by creating standard referral orders
- Establish two-way communication with referral services to get information on whether referrals were accepted by the patient

### Employ Population Management Strategies to Better Identify and Reach Patients Who Use Tobacco
- Use tobacco registries or other methods to track patients who use tobacco
- Conduct proactive follow-up with patients who use tobacco
The Importance of Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of disease and death in the United States and is a significant driver of healthcare costs. More than 16 million people in the U.S. live with at least one serious disease caused by smoking. Additionally, approximately 480,000 deaths and more than $300 billion in healthcare and lost productivity costs are attributable to smoking every year. Future smoking-related illnesses, deaths, and costs can be prevented by helping individuals who use tobacco to quit. Tobacco dependence is a chronic, relapsing condition that often requires repeated intervention and long-term support. Evidence-based treatments, including counseling and FDA-approved medications, are available but are underutilized.

E-cigarettes

E-cigarettes have potential to benefit non-pregnant adults who smoke if used as a complete substitute for smoked tobacco products, such as cigarettes. However, these products are still fairly new, and evidence on their long-term health effects, as well as their potential effectiveness as a cessation aid, is still developing. E-cigarettes are not currently approved by the FDA as a smoking cessation aid, and many adult e-cigarette users continue to also smoke cigarettes (known as dual use). Additionally, there is little current evidence about how to help people quit e-cigarette use. For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/e-cigarettes.

Clinicians play a critical role in delivering cessation support; at least 70% of persons who smoke see a physician each year. Patients expect physicians to address tobacco use, and consistent interventions from clinicians improve patient outcomes. Even brief advice to quit from a clinician increases quit rates, and more intensive clinical interventions have progressively greater impact. In addition to the patient-level benefits, addressing tobacco use and dependence in health systems is cost-effective across a variety of settings, can help meet certain quality measures, can reduce rehospitalization and readmission, and can increase patient satisfaction with the care they receive. Integrating tobacco dependence treatment into routine clinical care policies, protocols, and systems can help clinicians deliver effective cessation interventions.

About the Tobacco Cessation Change Package

The Tobacco Cessation Change Package (TCCP) presents a list of process improvements that clinicians can implement as they seek to deliver optimal treatment to patients who use tobacco. It was developed to give clinical teams a practical resource to increase the reach and effectiveness of tobacco cessation interventions and to incorporate these interventions into the clinical workflow.

The TCCP is intended to be used by healthcare professionals in outpatient, inpatient, and behavioral health settings. The TCCP is not a comprehensive clinical guide on treating

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5 The primary focus of the TCCP is cessation from combustible tobacco products, since the burden of death and disease from tobacco use in the U.S. is overwhelmingly caused by cigarettes and other combusted tobacco products. However, some tools and resources in Tables 1–5 address non-combustible product use, and the Million Hearts® Clinician Action Guide contains some guidance on addressing the use of other tobacco products.
tobacco dependence; rather, it is designed to complement other Million Hearts® tools:

- Tobacco Cessation Intervention Protocol
- Clinician Action Guide on Identifying and Treating Patients Who Use Tobacco

Whereas the Protocol and Action Guide focus on the content of clinical interventions, the TCCP focuses on how to implement such interventions at a systems level.

The Evolving 5As
Additional models for treatment implementation have evolved since development of the 5As. Ask, Advise, Refer (AAR) and Ask, Advise, Connect (AAC) emphasize connection of patients to treatment extenders. Opt-out treatment models are also increasingly utilized; one example of an opt-out model is the American College of Cardiology’s (ACC) Pathway for Tobacco Cessation Treatment.27

The TCCP is composed of change concepts, change ideas, and tools and resources. Change concepts are general notions that are useful for developing more specific strategies for changing a process. Change ideas are actionable, specific ideas or strategies that can be rapidly tested on a small scale to determine whether they result in improvements in the local environment. Each change idea is linked to evidence- or practice-based tools and resources that can be adopted or adapted to implement each change idea.

The purpose of the TCCP is to help multidisciplinary healthcare teams put systems and strategies in place to more efficiently and effectively integrate treatment of tobacco use and dependence into routine clinical care. The TCCP is broken down into five main focus areas (Figure 1), which are mapped to the 5As tobacco intervention framework: Ask all patients about tobacco use at every visit/admission; Advise all patients who use tobacco to quit; Assess the patient’s willingness to make a quit attempt; Assist the quit attempt with counseling and medication; and Arrange follow-up.4

Figure 1. Tobacco Cessation Change Package Focus Areas
How to Use the Tobacco Cessation Change Package

The TCCP offers a menu of options that clinicians and practices can choose from based on their specific circumstances and needs. We do not recommend that any healthcare practice attempt to implement all the interventions described in the TCCP at once, nor is it likely that all of these interventions will be applicable to every clinical setting.

We recommend that you start by bringing together a multidisciplinary team of stakeholders (e.g., physicians, pharmacists, nurses, medical assistants, social workers, care managers, quality improvement coordinators, health informaticians, and administrators). The team can look at the elements in Figure 1 and conduct an assessment to determine the aspects of tobacco dependence treatment that are most in need of improvement in your health system. You may also benefit from talking directly with others who have undertaken similar efforts to learn from their experience. Once your team has identified and prioritized the needs, interventions can be selected from the TCCP to create a supportive treatment environment to address those needs.

Figure 2 depicts the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Model for Improvement. This model suggests posing three questions:

1. What are we trying to accomplish?
2. How will we know that a change is an improvement?
3. What changes can we make that will result in improvement?

The answers will point you to your quality improvement objectives and related metrics. You can then choose strategies from the TCCP that have been shown to result in improvement. Each strategy you choose should first be tested on a small scale (i.e., conduct a “small test of change”) to assess feasibility and allow the team to evaluate and adjust before instituting the change on a broader, more permanent scale. This approach can be accomplished using Plan-Do-Study-Act (or PDSA) cycles.

Figure 2. Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Model for Improvement
Tables 1 through 5 contain a list of change concepts and change ideas that clinicians, practices, and systems can implement to enhance their delivery of tobacco cessation interventions. Each change idea is paired with practical tools and resources provided by experts in the field who have successfully used them. Each tool has a key to indicate its applicable settings (i.e., outpatient, inpatient, behavioral health, or multiple settings).

- **Key Foundations** (Table 1) includes approaches and tools to assess the current status of tobacco dependence treatment in your healthcare practice or system and to make it a priority. This is likely a good place to start quality improvement efforts related to tobacco cessation interventions.

- **Equipping Care Teams** (Table 2) includes approaches and tools to prepare and motivate healthcare staff to consistently address tobacco use.

- **Screening** (Table 3) includes approaches and tools that promote consistent universal screening for tobacco use (i.e., asking about tobacco use) as a prerequisite for intervening with patients or clients who use tobacco.

- **Treatment** (Table 4) includes approaches and tools to help ensure that patients or clients who use tobacco are consistently advised to quit, assessed for willingness to make a quit attempt, and offered assistance in quitting tobacco use.

- **Referral and Follow-Up** (Table 5) includes approaches and tools for arranging follow-up for patients or clients who use tobacco and for providing referral to internal or external resources that can serve as an adjunct to treatment provided by the clinician.

Additional resources can be found in the appendices:

- **Appendix A** provides resources for quality improvement.

- **Appendix B** contains resources for working with electronic health records.

- **Appendix C** highlights case studies in health systems change for tobacco cessation interventions.

- **Appendix D** provides resources for engaging in community-level tobacco prevention and control strategies.

The tools in this TCCP have been successfully used in the field to systematize and improve the delivery of treatment for tobacco use and dependence. Some clinical details in certain tools may reflect models of treatment and management that differ from those in your practice. You may need to modify these tools to adapt them to your patient population and practice. In addition, because the science of treating tobacco use and dependence continues to evolve, some tools may become outdated over time. The TCCP will be periodically updated accordingly.
How to Measure Quality Improvement Efforts

Monitoring and measuring quality improvement efforts, including both outcomes and processes, is essential. Process measures, such as the proportion of patients who use tobacco and are offered treatment and follow-up, can provide early indications of whether interventions are being successfully carried out. Longer-term outcomes, such as reduced prevalence of tobacco use in the system’s patient population, can also provide valuable feedback. You can begin by collecting baseline data on a process you are seeking to improve. Then test your change ideas on a small scale in order to identify potential barriers to implementation. This approach allows clinical staff to make needed refinements to address these barriers before implementing the change idea on a broader scale.

One very helpful tool for monitoring efforts is a run chart. A run chart is a graph that displays performance on a process or outcome over time. It can help show decision makers and other stakeholders why recommended changes are needed. You can then use the chart to document when specific changes were made in order to show how these changes impacted performance (Figure 3). See Appendix A for additional quality improvement tools and resources.

Figure 3. Example of a Run Chart

Percent of Eligible Patients Counseled on Cessation Medication, Clinic A, March–December 2019
## Change Concepts, Change Ideas, and Tools and Resources

### Table 1. Key Foundations

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<td>Make Tobacco Cessation a Practice and System Priority</td>
<td>Identify one or two key champions and assemble a multidisciplinary team</td>
<td>Center of Excellence for Health Systems Improvement for a Tobacco-Free NY — Supporting Evidence-Based Tobacco Dependence Screening &amp; Treatment (p. 155)</td>
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<td>UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI — Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (pp. 12–13)</td>
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<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (p. 9)</td>
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<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (p. 19)</td>
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<td>SAMHSA — Implementing Tobacco Cessation Programs in Substance Use Disorder Treatment Settings: A Quick Guide for Program Directors and Clinicians (p. 8)</td>
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<td>As a multidisciplinary group, conduct an assessment of your clinic/system and develop an action plan to address the current gaps (continued on next page)</td>
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<td>AAFP — Treating Tobacco Dependence Practice Manual: A Systems-Change Approach (pp. 4–6, 19)</td>
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<td>CU Anschutz Medical Campus — Build a Clinic Learning Community: Summary Report and Playbook (pp. 65–84)</td>
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<td>KS Health Foundation and NAMI KS — Implementation Self-Assessment: Kansas Tobacco Guideline for Behavioral Health Care</td>
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<td>Adopt or update a unit, practice, or system-wide policy to reflect prioritization of tobacco treatment</td>
<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (Appendix N)</td>
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<td>Create a Supportive Environment for Cessation</td>
<td>Implement and strengthen hospital or clinic-wide tobacco- or smoke-free campus policies</td>
<td>CU Anschutz Medical Campus — DIMENSIONS: Tobacco-Free Policy Toolkit</td>
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<td>WINTIP — Recommendations and Guidelines for Policies &amp; Procedures in Tobacco-Free Facilities &amp; Services in Wisconsin’s Substance Use &amp; Mental Health Treatment Programs</td>
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<td>Support employees and their family members in quitting smoking by providing health benefits for tobacco cessation</td>
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<td>Practical Guide (Step 4, pp. 10–11)</td>
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### Table 2. Equipping Care Teams (continued)

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<td>Equip All Staff to</td>
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**Key:**  Outpatient: ○  Inpatient: △  Behavioral Health: □
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<td><strong>Provide Clinician- and System-Level Feedback on Progress and Impact</strong></td>
<td>Track clinician, clinic, hospital, and system performance to provide feedback to clinicians and decision-makers</td>
<td>Center of Excellence for Health Systems Improvement for a Tobacco-Free NY — Supporting Evidence-Based Tobacco Dependence Screening &amp; Treatment</td>
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<td>- General Health Settings (pp. 165–166)</td>
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<td>- Behavioral Health Settings (pp. 193–195)</td>
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<td>Plymouth Family Physicians — Practice Performance Report (p. 29)</td>
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<td>OK Health Care Authority and OK State Department of Health, Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion</td>
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<td>- Collecting Performance Data Using Chart Audits and Electronic Data Extraction</td>
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<td>- Chart Audit Tool</td>
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**Key:**
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- Behavioral Health: □
# Table 3. Screening

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<td>Make Tobacco Use a Vital Sign: Screen Every Patient for Tobacco Use at Every Visit</td>
<td>Adopt a tobacco use screening protocol</td>
<td>Million Hearts® — Protocol for Identifying and Treating Patients Who Use Tobacco</td>
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<td>NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (p. 84)</td>
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<td>UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI — Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (p. 10)</td>
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<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (pp. 8, 13–14)</td>
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<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (pp. 6–7, Appendix N)</td>
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<td>Establish a workflow and determine roles for tobacco use screening and documentation</td>
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<td>ICSI — Tobacco Health Systems Change Starter Toolkit for Clinics (pp. 24–26)</td>
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<td>CU Anschutz Medical Campus — A Patient-Centered Tobacco Cessation Workflow for Healthcare Clinics (pp. 2–4)</td>
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<td>Embed a tobacco use status prompt in the EHR or other patient record-keeping system (continued on next page)</td>
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<td>· Quit Connect Health Overview and Staff Instructions (p. 11)</td>
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**Key:** Outpatient: ○  Inpatient: ▲  Behavioral Health: ▼
### Table 3. Screening (continued)

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<td><strong>Make Tobacco Use a Vital Sign: Screen Every Patient for Tobacco Use at Every Visit</strong></td>
<td>Embed a tobacco use status prompt in the EHR or other patient record-keeping system</td>
<td>CDC — Louisiana State University Health System's Tobacco Control Initiative (<a href="#">pp. 4–5</a>)</td>
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<td>Hospitals Helping Patients Quit and OK TSET — Hospitals Helping Patients Quit and Tobacco Treatment Best Practices Electronic Records Support (<a href="#">p. 3</a>)</td>
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<td>Cayuga Medical Center — <a href="#">Cayuga Center for Healthy Living Care Transitions Program</a> Treatment Plan for Tobacco/Nicotine Replacement</td>
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<td>AAFP — <a href="#">Integrating Tobacco Cessation into Electronic Health Records</a></td>
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<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (for obstetric care; <a href="#">Appendix 5A–C</a>)</td>
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<td>Legacy (now Truth Initiative®) and Partnership for Prevention — Help Your Patients Quit Tobacco Use: An Implementation Guide for Community Health Centers (<a href="#">p. 54</a>)</td>
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<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (<a href="#">p. 7</a>)</td>
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<td><strong>Embed decision support scripts for screening into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system</strong></td>
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<td>NYC DOHMH — <a href="#">Help Your Patients Quit Smoking: A Coaching Guide</a></td>
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<td>UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI — Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (<a href="#">pp. 21–22</a>)</td>
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<td>Heart Health Now! Advancing Heart Health in NC Primary Care — Module: Ready or Not: Addressing Tobacco Use (<a href="#">pp. 12–13</a>)</td>
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**Key:**  
- Outpatient: ![circle]  
- Inpatient: ![triangle]  
- Behavioral Health: ![square]
| Establish a Tobacco Treatment Protocol | Implement a treatment intervention | Million Hearts®  
· Protocol for Identifying and Treating Patients Who Use Tobacco  
· Identifying and Treating Patients Who Use Tobacco: Action Steps for Clinicians (pp. 3–5) |  
ACC — 2018 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on Tobacco Cessation Treatment (Figure 1)  
CU Anschutz Medical Campus — A Patient-Centered Tobacco Cessation Workflow for Healthcare Clinics (p. 6)  
NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (p. 84)  
UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI — Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (p. 10)  
UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (pp. 8, 11–12, 15–22)  
UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (pp. 20–26, Appendix N)  
AAFP — Office Champions Tobacco Cessation Behavioral Health Facts  
KS Health Foundation and NAMI KS – Kansas Tobacco Guideline for Behavioral Health Care: An Implementation Toolkit (pp. 28–34)  
SAMHSA — Implementing Tobacco Cessation Programs in Substance Use Disorder Treatment Settings: A Quick Guide for Program Directors and Clinicians (pp. 5–9) |  
Key:  
Outpatient: ○  
Inpatient: △  
Behavioral Health: ■  
Table 4. Treatment
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| Establish a Tobacco Treatment Protocol | Establish a workflow to determine roles for delivering the treatment intervention | Center of Excellence for Health Systems Improvement for a Tobacco-Free NY — Supporting Evidence-Based Tobacco Dependence Screening & Treatment  
  - General Health Settings (pp. 148–153)  
  - Behavioral Health Settings (pp. 188–190)  
  - UC Irvine Emergency Workflow  
  - ICSI — Tobacco Health Systems Change Starter Toolkit for Clinics (pp. 23–26)  
  - CU Anschutz Medical Campus — A Patient-Centered Tobacco Cessation Workflow for Healthcare Clinics (pp. 2–4)  
  - UC Quits — UC Irvine Psychiatric Inpatient Workflow  
  - UC Quits — UCSF Outpatient Workflow  
  - ACC — 2018 ACC Expert Consensus Decision Pathway on Tobacco Cessation Treatment (Figure 4)  
  - UC Quits — Current UCSF Inpatient Workflow | ▲  
| Enhance Clinical Decision Support     | Embed treatment intervention prompts into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system (continued on next page) | NYC Health & Hospitals — EHR Screenshots (Epic): Ambulatory Tobacco Screening and Treatment Workflow (pp. 3–9)  
  - Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin — EHR Screenshot (Epic) (pp. 1–3)  
  - AAFP — Integrating Tobacco Cessation into Electronic Health Records  
  - UW-CTRI — Using the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to Support the Delivery of Tobacco Dependence Treatment Services in Health Care Settings (pp. 10, 13)  
  - UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI  
    - Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (pp. 14–28)  
    - Quit Connect Health Overview and Staff Instructions (pp. 11–12) | ▲  

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<td><strong>Enhance Clinical Decision Support</strong></td>
<td>Embed treatment prompts into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system</td>
<td>NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (<em>pp. 89–94</em>)</td>
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<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (<em>pp. 8, 21</em>)</td>
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<td>Embed decision support scripts for each intervention step into the EHR or other patient record-keeping system</td>
<td>NYC DOHMH — <em>Help Your Patients Quit Smoking: A Coaching Guide</em></td>
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<td>Heart Health Now! Advancing Heart Health in NC Primary Care — Module: Ready or Not: Addressing Tobacco Use (<em>pp. 17–18, 22, 26</em>)</td>
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<td>Implement standard order sets for counseling and medication</td>
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<td>Adopt tools to guide medication selection</td>
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<td>UW-CTRI — Tobacco Dependence Treatment Medications</td>
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<td>AAFP — Pharmacologic Product Guide: FDA-Approved Medications for Smoking Cessation</td>
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<td><strong>Implement Standardized Approaches to Support Cessation Efforts</strong></td>
<td>Deliver standard patient education regarding cessation medication</td>
<td>AAFP — Quit Smoking Guide</td>
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<td>VA — Patient Guide: Tobacco Cessation Therapy · English · Spanish</td>
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<td>NYC DOHMH and NY State Smokers’ Quitline — NYC Quits Kit</td>
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<td>Adopt a clinical decision support tool for helping patients plan their quit attempt</td>
<td>NYC DOHMH — Help Your Patients Quit Smoking: A Coaching Guide</td>
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### Table 5. Referral and Follow-Up

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<tr>
<td>Establish Protocols to Identify and Connect Patients to Referral Resources</td>
<td>Implement a protocol or workflow to ensure clinician follow-up with patients</td>
<td>Million Hearts® — Protocol for Identifying and Treating Patients Who Use Tobacco</td>
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<td>Identify and partner with referral services that can serve as an adjunct to care</td>
<td>Quitlines</td>
<td>· 1-800-QUIT-NOW</td>
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<td>· Find more information about Quitlines at CDC’s Tips® website</td>
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<td>· Smokefree.gov/tools-tips/text-programs</td>
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<td>· Smokefree.gov/tools-tips/apps</td>
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<td>· Veterans.smokefree.gov/smokeless-tobacco</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Establish Protocols to Identify and Connect Patients to Referral Resources</strong></td>
<td>Set up direct referrals to internal and external resources by creating standard referral orders</td>
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<td>MultiCare Health System — Tobacco Cessation Program (pp. 4, 11–14)</td>
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<td>UM Medicine — Tobacco Cessation: EPIC E-Referrals to MD Quit Line (pp. 4–5)</td>
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<td>NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (pp. 98–101)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NYC Health &amp; Hospitals — EHR Screenshot (Epic): Ambulatory Tobacco Screening and Treatment Workflow (p. 9)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI · Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (pp. 10, 14–19)</td>
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<td>· Quit Connect Health Overview and Staff Instructions (pp. 11–12)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (Appendix 3, Appendix 6)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Establish two-way communication with referral services to get information on whether referrals were accepted by the patient</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (Appendix 7)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (p. 99)</td>
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<td>Hospitals Helping Patients Quit and OK TSET — Hospitals Helping Patients Quit and Tobacco Treatment Best Practices Electronic Records Support (p. 6)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UW-CTRI — Screenshots depicting treatment services data from the tobacco quitline that populates the referred patient’s EHR</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI — Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (p. 27)</td>
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</table>

**Key:** Outpatient: ○  Inpatient: △  Behavioral Health: □
### Table 5. Referral and Follow-Up (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Change Concept</th>
<th>Change Idea</th>
<th>Tools and Resources</th>
<th>Settings</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employ Population Health Management Strategies</strong></td>
<td>Use tobacco registries or other methods to track patients who use tobacco</td>
<td>UW-CTRI — Using the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to Support the Delivery of Tobacco Dependence Treatment Services in Health Care Settings (<a href="#">pp. 14–15</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (<a href="#">pp. 121, 142</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Legacy (now Truth Initiative®) and Partnership for Prevention — Help Your Patients Quit Tobacco Use: An Implementation Guide for Community Health Centers (<a href="#">&quot;Experience from the Field,&quot; p. 27</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (for obstetric care; <a href="#">Appendix 5A–B</a>)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conduct proactive follow-up with patients who use tobacco</td>
<td></td>
<td>Legacy (now Truth Initiative®) and Partnership for Prevention — Help Your Patients Quit Tobacco Use: An Implementation Guide for Community Health Centers (<a href="#">p. 36</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC — ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (<a href="#">pp. 84, 104</a>)</td>
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<td>Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin — EHR Screenshots (Epic): (<a href="#">pp. 3, 5</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>UW-CTRI — Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence in Hospitalized Patients: A Practical Guide (<a href="#">pp. 23–25</a>)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (<a href="#">pp. 24–25, Appendix 0</a>)</td>
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</table>
Appendix A: Additional Resources for Quality Improvement

If you are new to continuous quality improvement (QI), there are many useful QI tools that can assist you in your efforts. For example, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) provides a number of QI tools that support its Model for Improvement (Figure 2). Their Quality Improvement Essentials Toolkit is a good primer for those new to quality improvement. It includes the Project Planning Form to help teams think systematically about their improvement project, and the PDSA Worksheet for Testing Change, which walks the user through documenting a test of change. Sustaining Improvement provides guidance for maintaining high levels of performance over time by adding quality planning and quality control to improvement efforts. These resources may be helpful for planning, assigning responsibilities, carrying out small tests of change, and preserving improvements for clinical tobacco cessation interventions.

Another useful QI reference and toolkit is the “Guide to Improving Care Processes and Outcomes in Health Centers” available from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), which supports the U.S. healthcare safety net. This resource includes worksheets, such as the Clinical Decision Support-enabled Quality Improvement Worksheet, for analyzing current workflows and information flows and considering improvements for targets such as increasing tobacco cessation. The TCCP can help identify promising or evidence-based approaches to enhancing care processes to achieve this goal.

Finally, the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) publishes a guidebook series on improving care delivery and outcomes with clinical decision support (CDS). These guidebooks can help you apply the CDS Five Rights framework to ensure that all the right people (including patients) get the right information in the right formats via the right channels at the right times to optimize health-related decisions and actions. The guidebooks help healthcare practices and their partners set up programs that reliably deliver outcome-improving CDS interventions. They also provide detailed guidance on how to successfully develop, launch, and monitor such interventions so that all stakeholders benefit.
Appendix B: Additional Resources for Electronic Health Records Changes

Leveraging electronic health record (EHR) technology is one key strategy to integrate treatment of tobacco use and dependence into routine clinical care. Several of the change ideas described above include modifying the EHR to facilitate integration of cessation interventions into the clinical workflow. The following resources provide specific guidance for leveraging EHRs to enhance provision of clinical cessation services.

### Guides

- **AAFP** — *Integrating Tobacco Cessation into Electronic Health Records*
- **California Smokers’ Helpline** — *e-Referral*
- **Hospitals Helping Patients Quit and OK TSET** — *Hospitals Helping Patients Quit and Tobacco Treatment Best Practices Electronic Records Support*
- **North American Quitline Consortium** — *Guide for Implementing eReferral Using Certified EHRs*
- **UW Health, UW-Madison SMPH, and UW-CTRI** — *Quit Connect Health: A Specialty Staff Protocol to Improve Referrals to Tobacco Quit Lines (pp. 14–28)*
- **UW-CTRI** — *Using the Electronic Health Record (EHR) to Support the Delivery of Tobacco Dependence Treatment Services in Health Care Settings*

### Screen Shots

- **CA Quits** — *CA Quits Toolkit (p. 7)*
- **Group Health Cooperative of South Central Wisconsin** — *EHR Screenshots (Epic):*
  - Best Practice Advisory as Seen by Providers
  - Smoking Cessation SmartSet as Seen by Providers
  - Tobacco Cessation Outreach Specialist (Care Manager) EHR Notes Documentation
  - Patient Instructions from Tobacco Cessation Outreach Specialist (Care Manager) Example
  - Tobacco Cessation Outreach Specialists (Care Managers) Navigator
- **Legacy (now Truth Initiative®) and Partnership for Prevention** — *Help Your Patients Quit Tobacco Use: An Implementation Guide for Community Health Centers (p. 54)*
- **MultiCare Health System** — *Tobacco Cessation Program (pp. 13–14)*
- **NYC DOHMH and HealthyHearts NYC** — *ABCS Toolkit for the Practice Facilitator (pp. 81–83, 89–94)*
- **NYC Health & Hospitals** — *EHR Screenshots: Ambulatory Tobacco Screening and Treatment Workflow (Epic):*
  - Tobacco Screening
  - Ask About Tobacco Use
  - Advise to Quit
  - Assess Readiness to Quit
  - Assist With Quitting
  - Best Practice Advisory
  - Assist With Quitting SmartSet Counseling and Referrals
  - Assistant With Quitting SmartSet Medication
  - Tobacco Quitline eReferral Order
- **UCSF SCLC** — *Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (pp. 7–8)*
- **UM Medicine** — *Tobacco Cessation: EPIC E-Referrals to MD Quit Line (pp. 3–7)*
- **UW-CTRI** — *Screenshots depicting treatment services data from the tobacco quitline that populates the referred patient’s EHR*
Appendix C: Case Studies in Health Systems Change for Tobacco Cessation Interventions

The following case studies provide examples of health systems that have undertaken extensive systems change to improve treatment of tobacco use and dependence within their systems. For approaches and tools to replicate these successes, see Tables 1–5 in this change package.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CU Anschutz Medical Campus — Build a Clinic Learning Community: Summary Report and Playbook (p. 25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC — Q&amp;A with Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates and Atrius Health about Health Systems Change to Address Smoking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC — Louisiana State University Health System’s Tobacco Control Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essentia Health — Incorporating Best Practice Tobacco Treatment into a Large Integrated Health System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legacy (now Truth Initiative*) and Partnership for Prevention — Help Your Patients Quit Tobacco Use: An Implementation Guide for Community Health Centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Carolina (pp. 44–45)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oregon (pp. 46–47)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utah (pp. 48–49)</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCSF SCLC — Destination Tobacco Free: A Practical Tool for Hospitals and Health Systems (p. 21)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Appendix D: Resources for Community-Level Tobacco Prevention and Control Strategies

Although the TCCP focuses on clinical cessation interventions, healthcare systems can also support population-level strategies that decrease tobacco initiation and promote cessation. This may include activities such as community outreach, educational campaigns, and engagement in proven tobacco control policy efforts. Additionally, healthcare systems can partner with state and local public health entities to support community health improvement plans,31 or leverage their own community health needs assessment and implementation plans32 to engage in population-level strategies. Look at the following tools for ideas on how to engage in multi-sector approaches for tobacco prevention and control.

- CDC — Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs — 2014
- OR Health Authority — Multi-Sector Approaches for Tobacco Prevention: Recommendations for Health Systems
- OR Health Authority — Evidence-Based Strategies for Reducing Tobacco Use: A Guide for CCOs (p. 7)
# Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AAFP</td>
<td>American Academy of Family Physicians</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACC</td>
<td>American College of Cardiology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASHLine</td>
<td>Arizona Smokers’ Helpline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDC</td>
<td>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDS</td>
<td>Clinical Decision Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CU</td>
<td>University of Colorado</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DOHMH</td>
<td>Department of Health and Mental Hygiene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHR</td>
<td>Electronic Health Record</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIMSS</td>
<td>Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRSA</td>
<td>Health Resources and Services Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICSI</td>
<td>Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>IHI</td>
<td>Institute for Healthcare Improvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAMI</td>
<td>National Alliance on Mental Illness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAQC</td>
<td>North American Quitline Consortium</td>
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<tr>
<td>NCI</td>
<td>National Cancer Institute</td>
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<td>NQF</td>
<td>National Quality Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>PDSA</td>
<td>Plan-Do-Study-Act</td>
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<tr>
<td>QI</td>
<td>Quality Improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAMHSA</td>
<td>Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</td>
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<td>SCLC</td>
<td>Smoking Cessation Leadership Center</td>
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<td>SMPH</td>
<td>School of Medicine and Public Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>TCCP</td>
<td>Tobacco Cessation Change Package</td>
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<td>TSET</td>
<td>Tobacco Settlement Trust</td>
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<tr>
<td>UC</td>
<td>University of California</td>
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<tr>
<td>UCSF</td>
<td>University of California, San Francisco</td>
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<tr>
<td>UM Medicine</td>
<td>University of Maryland School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>UW</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin</td>
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<tr>
<td>UW-CTRI</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention</td>
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<td>VA</td>
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<tr>
<td>WiNTiP</td>
<td>Wisconsin Nicotine Treatment Integration Project</td>
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References


Million Hearts® is a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services initiative that is co-led by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, with the goal of preventing one million heart attacks and strokes by 2022.