

Working Towards a Tobacco-Free Healthcare Facility Seminar brief

SEMINAR OVERVIEW

The goal of The Union training seminar 'Working towards a tobacco-free healthcare facility' is to assist senior healthcare facility personnel and managers in low- and middle-income countries in making their healthcare facilities tobacco-free.

A tobacco-free healthcare facility should consist of tobacco-free buildings, and preferably grounds. If smoking is allowed outside, it should be in a designated area and, if possible, for patients and visitors only. Smoking cessation support should be routinely provided to patients who smoke and family members who expose patients to tobacco smoke in the home. Cessation support should also be accessible to staff.

The content of the seminar is based on The Union's publication 'Tobacco-free Healthcare – a tobacco-free futures action guide'. A companion slide presentation (with notes for facilitators) is available for use during training. Both the action guide and presentation can be downloaded at <http://www.tobaccofreeunion.org/content/en/202/>.

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control requirements

Under Article 8 of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) - Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke - parties must implement legal measures that protect non-smokers from exposure to tobacco smoke in indoor public places, including workplaces, public transport and, as appropriate, other public places.

Target audience

The seminar is aimed at senior healthcare personnel and managers (directors and deputy-directors) who are responsible for implementing tobacco-free policies in health care facilities.

Organisers and facilitators should emphasise that the seminar has a practical focus, targeted at those closely involved in the oversight and management of making a healthcare facility tobacco-free. It is not a 'train the trainers' seminar, and will not provide detailed training content for staff training in healthcare facilities.

The recommended number of participants is 20-25.

Duration of the seminar: one day

The total duration will be eight hours, including registration and breaks. The morning session will consist of presentations and discussions. The afternoon will consist of skill-building exercises and discussions.

Learning objectives, skill development and outcomes

Learning objectives

1. To understand the rationale for making healthcare facilities tobacco-free.
2. To know the best practices for implementing tobacco-free policies and smoking cessation programmes.

Skills developed

Participants will learn how to lead the development and implementation of tobacco-free policies and smoking cessation support in healthcare facilities.

Through group exercises, participants will develop their ability to:

1. formulate a comprehensive plan for a tobacco-free healthcare facility.
2. identify the resources and support (technical and human) needed to implement the plan.
3. learn how to overcome barriers to a tobacco-free healthcare facility.
4. monitor and evaluate the impact of the policy and compliance with it.

Outcomes

Key outcomes will be:

A strategic action plan for the development of a tobacco-free healthcare facility drafted by participants, taking into account their specific situation and needs.

These changes will contribute to reductions in tobacco-related morbidity and mortality.

Structure and content

The seminar consists of ten sessions addressing various aspects of planning, implementing and evaluating tobacco-free healthcare facilities.

Content of sessions

Sessions include an introductory presentation followed by knowledge-building presentations and skill-building exercises (planning and policy drafting), and discussions based on the 'Tobacco-free Healthcare' guide.

During the seminar, participants will:

1. draft an action plan for the development of a tobacco-free policy for their healthcare facility.
2. receive copies of useful resources and learn how to access other relevant resources.

These sessions will help participants to:

1. consider multiple issues in making a healthcare facility tobacco-free.
2. determine strategies for achieving this goal.
3. maintain a tobacco-free healthcare facility.

The sessions are summarised in the 'Detailed Programme and Guide' section, which also includes further guidance for facilitators.