More Smokers Report Health Care Providers are Supporting Their Quit Attempts

The Public Health Service’s Clinical Practice Guidelines for *Treating Tobacco use and Dependence* includes directives for health care providers to incorporate systems that cue providers to Ask patients if they smoke, Advise smokers to quit, and Assist quit attempts. In 2004, Tobacco Control Program Cessation Center partners were charged with the task of working with health care organizations to implement these guidelines.

- In 2007, about 90% of adults who have been to a health care provider in the past 12 months report being asked if they smoke.
- In 2007, 80% of smokers report being advised to quit by a health care provider in the past 12 months.
- Nearly half of all smokers who have been to a health care provider in the past 12 months, report being prescribed or referred for effective tobacco treatments, or given brief counseling. This is 31% more than the rate in 2004 (p<0.001).
- The percentages of smokers reporting being advised to quit and receiving assistance are significantly higher than the national percentages.

**Percentage of Adults Who Were Asked, Advised and Assisted Regarding Tobacco Use: New York State and National**

[Graph showing trends in New York State and National data from 2003 to 2007, highlighting significant increases in the percentage of adults asked, advised, and assisted.

Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or type ‘StatShot’ in the subject line of an e-mail and send it to tcp@health.state.ny.us.