Health Care Providers are Recommended to Ask, Advise, and Assist Patients to Quit Smoking

The Clinical Practice Guidelines for Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence (Fiore, et al., 2008) recommend that health care providers ASK if their patients smoke, ADVISE smokers to quit, and ASSIST patients with quit attempts through counseling and medications. According to 2015 data from the NY Adult Tobacco Survey:

- **ASK:** Among current smokers who report having seen a health care provider in the past 12 months, most (87.3%) report having been asked if they smoke cigarettes.
- **ADVISE:** Close to 3 out of 4 smokers (72.6%) report that their health care provider advised them to quit smoking.
- **ASSIST:** 1 out of 2 smokers (50.8%) report their health care provider offered assistance to quit.

In 2015, 66% of adult smokers stopped smoking for one day or more because they were trying to quit smoking. Evidence demonstrates that health care provider assistance doubles the odds that a smoker will quit. The aim of the NY Tobacco Control Program’s Health Systems for a Tobacco-Free NY initiative is to work with medical and mental health care organizations to implement systematic, guideline-concordant, evidenced-based tobacco dependence treatment.

### Percentage of Smokers in NYS who were Asked, Advised, or Assisted with Smoking Cessation by their Providers, 2003-2015


Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Evaluation and Research, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or send an e-mail to tcp@health.ny.gov. StatShots can be accessed online at: [http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/tobacco_control/reports/statshots/](http://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/tobacco_control/reports/statshots/)