

Smoking on the decline

The number of people who smoke is on the decline, as a 2018 report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has noted.

The percentage of adults in the United States who smoke cigarettes declined from roughly 21 percent in 2005 to 15.5 percent in 2016.

That decline has no doubt helped reduce overall cancer death rates, though the figures regarding smoking-related deaths are still staggering.

According to the CDC, smoking accounts for more than 480,000 deaths each year in the United States. The 2018 report from the CDC indicates that men (17.5 per-

cent) are more likely than women (13.5 percent) to smoke cigarettes.

In addition, the report notes a correlation between education and the likelihood of smoking cigarettes. While smoking was lowest among people who had graduate degrees, with only five out of every 100 such adults being smokers,

smoking rates were highest (40.6 percent) among adults with graduate education degree certificates, or GEDs.

While people who had no high school diploma were less likely to smoke cigarettes than GED recipients, the CDC report found that smoking rates declined the more education people received.

Facts and figures about cancer

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8.8 million: The number of people, according to the World Health Organization, who died from cancer in 2015, making it the second leading cause of death across the globe.

70: Percentage of cancer deaths that occur in low- and middle-income countries. (Source: WHO)

22: Percentage of cancer deaths across the globe that

can be traced to tobacco use. (Source: Global Burden of Disease Study 2015)

90: Percentage of high-income countries in which treatment services are available to citizens afflicted with cancer. (Source: WHO)

<30: Percentage of low-income countries in which treatment services are available to citizens afflicted with cancer. (Source: WHO)

25: Percentage of cancer cases in low- and middle-income countries caused by infections such as hepatitis and

the human papilloma virus, or HPV. (Source: WHO).

12: Percentage of cancers worldwide linked to viruses. (Source: National Toxicology Program, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences)


1.69 million: The number of deaths attributed to lung cancer across the globe in 2015, making it the most deadly cancer in the world. Liver cancer (788,000 deaths), colorectal cancer (754,000), and breast cancer (571,000) were the other

most common causes of cancer deaths in 2015. (Source: WHO)

1.16 trillion: Economic cost, in American dollars, of cancer in 2010. (Source: International Agency for Research on Cancer)

33: Percentage of cancer deaths that can be linked to five leading behavioral and dietary risks: high body mass index, low fruit and vegetable intake, lack of physical activity, tobacco use, and alcohol consumption. (Source: WHO)

Office in Brownwood





Chris McClish, M.D.
Interventional Cardiology

Hendrick Medical Center is pleased to announce that Chris McClish, M.D., has office hours the third Tuesday of each month in Brownwood. Dr. McClish is an interventional cardiologist at Cardiology Consultants in Abilene. He earned his medical degree at The University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and completed his residency, internship and cardiology fellowship at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. He also completed a Fellowship in Interventional Cardiology at The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio.


Dr. McClish is board certified in Cardiovascular Disease and Interventional Cardiology.

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