Hold the Date!

24th / 25th March 2021



Please join us on Zoom!

We are holding a scientific and policy workshop with our partners in Belfast (Northern Ireland) and Bogota (Colombia) to disseminate the findings of a three-year study of how interventions in schools work to change social norms around smoking.

Who will this interest? Public health practitioners, researchers, policy makers, schools and students

This work was funded by the Medical Research Council (MR/R011176/1) and represents a collaboration between Queens University Belfast, the Universidad de los Andes in Colombia, academic partners from the UK and the US, our Third Sector collaborators and the pupils and teachers of the participating schools in both cities, without whom the research would not have been possible.

Please register for the workshop here and note Spanish/English option: www.smokingmechanisms.com

(NB: upon registering – there may be a delay in confirmation – you will receive this in due course along with the facility to view online materials. The workshop will have simultaneous translation audio options on the day and the abstract booklet / PowerPoint presentations will also be available to view / download in Spanish and English)











MRC/CSO Social and Public Health Sciences Unit



















Day 1: 24th March - Policies and implementation on smoking prevention			
Time (COL/UK)	Session	Chair	
09:30 / 14:30	Welcome Dr Michael McBride - Chief Medical Officer (Department of Health Northern Ireland)	Professor Frank Kee Professor Olga Sarmiento	
Session 1 - Policies and implementation of smoking prevention			
09:45 / 14:45	The current panorama of tobacco control policies to protect adolescents - Dr Blanca Llorente - Professor Linda Bauld	Professor Olga Sarmiento	
10:10 / 15:10	The MECHANISMS study: building evidence for adolescents smoking prevention - Dr Ruth Hunter	Professor Orga Sarrinerito	
10:20 / 15:20	Panel with local policymakers: Challenges and next steps in the policies to protect adolescents - Dr Michael McBride (Department of Health NI) - Dr Lorena Calderón (Health Ministry of Colombia) - Dr Juan Luis Castro (Congress of Colombia)	Dr Blanca Llorente Professor Linda Bauld	
10:50 / 15:50	Comfort Break		
Session 2 - School-based prevention programs in local contexts			
11:00 / 16:00 11:05 / 16:05	Podcast – Northern Ireland Fitting to the context: An experience of cultural adaptation of smoking prevention programs in Colombia - Miss Sharon Sánchez	Ms Judith West	
11:20 / 16:20	My experience participating in a smoking prevention program – A panel conversation with Students: - Student from Northern Ireland - Student from Colombia - Ms Angelica Claro (Red PaPaz Colombia)	Ms Sally Good	
11:40 / 16:40	Podcast Des-ahógate: libérate del humo de tabaco		
11:45 / 16:45	Policy brief: Hacia una generación libre de tabaco - Miss Sharon Sánchez		
11:55 / 16:55	Close	Professor Frank Kee Professor Olga Sarmiento	

Day 2: 25 th March - Building evidence on smoking prevention			
Time (COL/UK)	Session	Chair	
09:30 / 14:30	Welcome Dr Natalia Mejía, Dean of School of Medicine (Universidad de los Andes)	Professor Olga Sarmiento Professor Frank Kee	
Session 1 - How can we measure social norms?			
09:40 / 14:40	Comparing different ways of measuring smoking and vaping social norms in adolescents - Dr Jennifer Murray		
09:50 / 14:50	On the stability of measures of norms and norm-following - Dr Erik Kimbrough	Dr Ruth Hunter	
10:00 – 15:00	Q & A		
Session 2 - Learning from smoking behaviours in two cultural contexts			
10.10 / 15:10	What factors contribute to smoking among adolescents in Northern Ireland and Bogotá and how do they differ? - Mr Christopher Tate	Professor Olga Sarmiento	
10:20 / 15:20	A tale of two cities: unlocking the mechanisms through understanding the context of smoking prevention - Miss Sharon Sánchez and Dr Shannon Montgomery		
10:30 / 15:30	Q & A		
10:40 / 15:40	Comfort Break		
Session 3 - Changing norms with a little bit of help from our friends			
10:50 / 15:50	Influence of friendship networks in the social norms of smoking behaviours in adolescents in Colombia and Northern Ireland - Professor Felipe Montes and Miss Martha Blanco		
11:00 / 16:00	Peer influence effects for spreading adolescent smoking and vaping norms in schools: The MECHANISMS study Dr Jennifer Murray	Professor Frank Kee	
11:10 / 16:10	Q&A		
Session 4 - The Tobacco Endgame: challenges for implementing smoking prevention programs			
11:20 / 16:20	Overview of the evidence - Dr Ruth Hunter		
11:25 / 16:20	Panel: Using the evidence for the implementation of local smoking prevention programs - Ms Colette Rogers (Regional Strategic Lead for Tobacco Control NI) - Ms Hilary Johnston (Public Health Agency, NI) - Dr Carlos Castro (Liga Contra el Cáncer Colombia) - Mr Iván Osejo Villamil (Secretary of Education Bogotá)	Professor Frank Kee Professor Olga Sarmiento	
11:50 / 16:50	Close		