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# Characterization of the Self-Knowledge on the Tobacco to Prevent Factors of Risks in Old Men

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#### **Abstract**

**Background:** tobacco consumption and its toxic consequences in elderly is an essential element in current healthcare work from the health professionals themselves.

**Objective:** to characterize of the self-knowledge on the tobacco to prevent factors of risks in old men from the clinical psychology.

**Methods:** a descriptive, cross-sectional study was conducted in a health area, where from a population of 60 there was a sample of 41 elderly with tobacco consumption belonging to the "José Ramón León Acosta" polyclinic in Santa Clara. Empirical and statistical methods, open interview and review of individual medical records were used.

**Results:** the factors of risks of the consumption of tobacco and sex are the lung cancer (97, 6%), followed by the presence of cerebral heart attack (75,6%) and hypertension with 70,7%. The 70% of the old men show to have a good knowledge on the harmful effects that it causes the tobacco for the health. In contrast with this 18% of the old men refers to have had a bad own knowledge.

**Conclusions:** tobacco consumption in elderly is a real health problem. It is very important to carry out health actions to prevent this toxic substance and factors of risks in the elderly from the clinical psychology.

**Keywords:** Self-Knowledge, Elderly, Tobacco, Factors of Risks, Prevention

# Introduction

The biggest adult in Cuba occupies more than 19 %, and it is expected that for the year 2025, one of each four Cubans is mature bigger. Of this population one percent is only in institutions, 9 % lives alone and the rest cohabits with family, with the result that Villa Clara is one of the most aged counties in Cuba [1].

The call third age, also well-known with the terms of age, bigger adulthood or elderly, it has been approached in the literature in an isolated way or I eat involution phase and I don't eat an authentic stage of the human development. It is located around the sixty years, associated to the event of the labor jubilation [2].

The tobacco is defined as a dysfunction caused by a substance able to produce dependence, the nicotine. The factors of risk are those characteristics or features linked to social factors that increase the biggest adult's vulnerability to develop illnesses or damages [3].

Prevention is an important resource within society to prevent different evils from reaching or expanding. This term is defined as actions aimed at the eradication, elimination and minimization of the impact of the disease and disability; it includes social, political, economic and therapeutic measures. The World Health Organization cited by Vignola et al [4]. States that primary prevention strategy may be aimed at prohibiting or reducing the exposure of the individual to the harmful factor, up to levels not harmful to health.

At present, there are insufficiencies in community care work to address the problem of tobacco consumption in elderly, which led to the present study aimed at solving the following scientific problem:

What are the characteristics of the self-knowledge on the tobacco to prevent factors of risks in old men from the clinical psychology belonging to the "José Ramón León Acosta de Santa Clara" policlinic? The general objective is to characterize of the self-knowledge on the tobacco to prevent factors of risks in old men from the clinical psychology.

## **Methods**

A descriptive, cross-sectional study was carried out in a health area, belonging to the "José Ramón León Acosta" polyclinic of Santa Clara municipality, in the period from January 2018 to July 2018. 60 elderly who consumed tobacco were studied, and the simple

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random sampling without replenishment probabilistic technique was used for the sample selection. It was constituted by 41 elderly, who were previously informed consent.

## Methods of the theoretical level Synthetic analytical

It made possible the interpretation of each one of the studied texts, to confirm the criterion assumed in the epigraphs and paragraphs, as well as to particularize in the data obtained in the surveys to integrate them and to establish the corresponding generalizations.

#### **Inductive-deductive**

It facilitated going from the particular to the general in each of the analyzes carried out in the theoretical study and in the processing of the obtained information.

#### Generalization

It allowed the establishment of the regularities that were revealed in the study carried out.

# **Methods of the empiric level Open interview**

Contributed to identify the self-knowledge on the tobacco in elderly.

#### **Individual clinical histories**

It made it possible to provide information on factors of risks of the consumption of tobacco in the elderly.

# The selection criteria were the following Inclusion approaches

All elderly with previous consumption of tobacco beverages that they reside in the health area belonging to a health area and are dispensed.

#### **Exclusion approaches**

Elderly whose legal guardians do not give consent to participate in the investigation, the following variables were used from the data obtained: sex, self-knowledge and factors of risks.

#### **Collection of information**

In order to carry out the research, the documentary review and individual clinical histories were used as techniques in order to obtain extended information.

### Statistical analysis

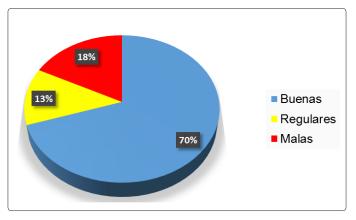
The information was stored in a data file in SPSS version 21.0 and is presented in tables and statistical graphs, for the description the arithmetic mean, standard deviation, absolute frequencies and percents were calculated. We worked with levels of significance of 5 %.

#### Process

To begin the development of the research, a bibliographic review was made with the use of the database by PubMed of the subject with a thorough analysis of the most relevant aspects in the Cuban environment as well as at an international level.

#### **Results**

**Graphic 1**: Representation of the self-knowledge geriatric on the harmful effects of the tobacco



**Source:** Open interview

In this graph it is observed that 70 % of the old men show to have a good knowledge on the harmful effects that it causes the tobacco for the health. In contrast with this 18 % of the old men refers to have had a bad own knowledge related with the damages that causes the consumption of tobacco, for 13 % bigger of adults that refer to have a knowledge average or to regulate with regard to the addiction of the tobacco and its negative effects for the health.

Chart 1: Distribution of elderly according to factors of risks of the tobacco and sex

Factors of risks of the tobacco	Sex					
	Female		Male		Total	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Lung cancer	11	91,6	29	100,0	40	97,6
Cerebral heart attack	9	75,0	22	75,9	31	75,6
Hypertension	8	66,7	21	72,4	29	70,7
Depression	8	66,7	20	68,7	28	68,3
Anxiety	5	41,7	14	48,3	19	46,3
Anorexy	-	-	3	7,3	3	7,3

**Source:** Individual clinical histories

Chart 1 refers to the factors of risks of the consumption of tobacco and sex, where it was appreciated that the most common effects of tobacco consumption was the lung cancer (97,6 %), followed by the presence of cerebral heart attack (75,6 %) and hypertension with 70,7 %.

It is important to highlight that elderly who feel depressed have a high probability of consuming tobacco as aversive way, which was reflected in the present work, where 68, 3 % of the subjects admitted that they had done it for causes of situational depression.

When analyzing the percentage of elderly for each of the reasons by sex, no statistically significant differences were found according to the results of the comparison test of two proportions for independent samples (p > 0.05).

#### **Discussion**

The results of the present investigation reflect this reality. While Cuban elderly reported relatively low tobacco consumption, before age 60 and frequently answered that they did so for fun or to relieve stress and feel relaxed.

The results of this investigation belong together since with the world and national tendency every time it increases more the habit in the biggest adults. It coincides with a study carried out by Ariza C, Nebot M, Díez AND, Tomás Z, Val mayor S [5]. About the tobacco in adults in a community in Spain, where it was reported that the half age of beginning in this habit, is located among the 60 years of age [6]. Other studies outline that the early beginning of the habit of smoking brings future problems of health and it is the entrance door for the consumption of alcohol or other legal drugs.

Coinciding with Righetti J that argues that the biggest prevalence in the tobacco is among the masculine sex, standing out the enormous risk that have of smoking the biggest adults whose family in its great majority makes it and the fateful consequences that brings the addiction for its future life, for the inherent differences to its sex, lifestyle and health [7,8].

In Cuba the differences among the masculine and feminine indexes of more consumption of adults are marked, according to that referred in the National Program of Control of the Tobacco of the Ministry of Public Health outlined by Achiong Estupiñán F [9]. Being reflected this way in the study, where the masculine sex prevails on the feminine one. On the other hand, Núñez TO, Núñez S [10]. In its work outlines that countries like Sweden exist, where the consumption is bigger in women than in men (24% and 22%, respectively).

Ugarte Díaz RM, González Henríquez, and Berger Vila K Outlines that it is known the influence that has the example of the family to adopt attitudes, by what becomes precise to surround the old men of positive examples that redound in the prevention of the tobacco, in order to reinforce the attitudes that go against the adoption of the addiction, and where the family plays a fundamental list, behaving as another factor of important risk for the consumption of the tobacco [11,12].

Although the risk is defined as an action that may involve a loss, each subject understands it according to their own perceptions; reason why the authors of this article call for reflection all those involved in the elderly attendance, including family and community factors.

The situation described in the Cuban and Mexican contexts is not unique. For example, a Colombian study found that 85 % of elderly people between the ages of 60 and 75 had consumed tobacco at some point in their lives. A similar percentage (80, 4 %) had done so in the previous year and approximately half of the elderly people

studied in the previous month [13].

Based on the results of this research, we worked to fulfill the main objective, which was to characterize the self-knowledge on the tobacco to prevent illnesses in old men from the clinical psychology and to provide integral health care aimed at preventing this social scourge.

#### **Conclusions**

Tobacco consumption in elderly is a real health problem. It is very important to carry out health actions to prevent the toxic consequences caused by the tobacco. The elderly in the study must adopt a new lifestyle as a determinant of health and modify inappropriate behaviors using a cognitive learning infrastructure for the benefit of their health. By way of conclusion, the dependence and tolerance associated with tobacco consumption in the elderly, cause's damage to their health causing biographical, social, psychological and spiritual deterioration that leads to going through various diseases. It is necessary according to the author of the research to carry out a clinical and assistance action strategy to consciously improve the inadequate lifestyle of the elderly due to the excessive and harmful consumption of tobacco for health and to prevent illnesses in the organism.

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