

Abstract: Psychotherapy Development Research Center

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Reducing adolescent and young adult tobacco use is an important public health objective and will result in significant health and economic benefits to our society. More than 6.3 million children under age 18 alive today will eventually die from smoking-related disease. The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act empowers the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to regulate tobacco products with the goal of reducing the appeal, addiction potential, and harmful effects of cigarette smoking. This proposal focuses on understanding the potential impact of modified risk tobacco products in those most vulnerable to smoking; adolescents and young adults. We propose a mixed methods study to examine middle school, high school, and college students' risk perceptions and behaviors related to existing and new tobacco products (including modified risk tobacco products), and communications regarding such tobacco products.

This project was selected based on (1) Supplement issues of high relevance to adolescents and young adults, (2) feasibility of rapid start and completion of Specific Aims within 2 years, and (3) ability to leverage collaborations and resources already in place within the Parent Center. The results of this investigation will provide the FDA with substantial guidance regarding regulation of new and current tobacco products by describing the potential behavioral impact of modified risk tobacco products in adolescents and young adults.