Tobacco Use – Why Deal with It Now?



In the United States, 1 in 3 adults with mental illness smoke cigarettes. But studies show that they want to quit, can quit, may need extra support to do so. 1 802Quits gives everyone a better chance of quitting.

- ★ Of the estimated 81,000 smokers in Vermont 40% are impacted by depression.²
- ★ 35% of Vermont Quitline callers who reported having a mental health condition told us that their mental health interfered with their guit attempts.3

If I try to quit tobacco now, won't that get in the way of my treatment?

- ★ We used to think that treating tobacco use would prevent recovery and could even harm mental health.
- ★ Now we know it can be helpful to quit tobacco as part of mental health treatment.
- ★ In fact, being tobacco-free improves mental health and reduces depression.



What is Vermont doing?

- ★ To provide the best setting for recovery, treatment centers in Vermont are going tobacco-free. This will create more spaces where tobacco smoke won't cause cravings or add stress to recovery.
- ★ Most centers will also offer approved quitting medicine like the patch/gum and counseling to support those who are trying to quit.
- ★ You can always call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or visit www.802Quits.org to learn more about 802Quits, the free quit-smoking help offered to Vermonters.
- ★ With 802Quits you can choose to get help either in-person from a local guit partner, over the phone, or online. Most people can get free medicine called Nicotine Replacement Therapy which doubles your chance of quitting for good

You can quit, we can help.

¹ http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/SmokingAndMentalIllness/

² 2013 Vermont BRFSS data

³ Internal data analysis from Vermont's Quitline caller data from July 31, 2013 to March 31 2014