THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC & SMOKING

Quick Facts

1) SMOKING IS A
RISK FACTOR FOR
NONMEDICAL USE
OF PRESCRIPTION
OPIOIDS

3) THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SMOKING & PAIN

2) DAILY & INTERMITTENT SMOKERS ARE 3X MORE LIKELY TO REPORT PAST-YEAR NONMEDICAL PRESCRIPTION OPIOID USE

85%

4) OF PATIENTS IN TREATMENT FOR OPIOID ADDICTION SMOKE

(HIGHER THAN ALCOHOL USE DISORDER)

5) NICOTINE MAY
ENHANCE THE
REWARDING
PROPERTIES OF
OPIOID MEDICATIONS
TO THE NEURAL
SYSTEM

6) PAIN CAN
INCREASE SMOKING
AND THE
MAINTENANCE OF
TOBACCO ADDICTION
CREATING A POSITIVE
FEEDBACK LOOP

7) ACTION STEP:
ALWAYS TAKE INTO ACCOUNT
TOBACCO USE WHEN ASSESSING
THE ABUSE POTENTIAL OF
PRESCRIBING OPIOIDS

Smoking Cessation Leadership Center

