Prevalence and determinants of SHS exposure in public and private areas after the 2010 smoke-free legislation in Greece

Sotiria Schoretsaniti1*, Filippos T Filippidis1, Constantine I Vardavas2,3,4, Chara Tzavara1, Christine Dimitrakaki1, Panagiotis Behrakis3,4,5, Gregory N Connolly2, Yannis Tountas1

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Background
The objective of the present survey was to assess the extent and socioeconomic determinants of population exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS) in Greece in 2011.

Materials and methods
The national household survey Hellas Health IV was conducted in October 2011. SHS exposure was based on self-reported exposure within home, workplace and public places.

Results
33.1% of the respondents reported living in a smoke-free home. Smokers (p<0.001) and single individuals (p<0.017) were less likely to prohibit smoking at home. SHS exposure at work, in restaurants and in bars/clubs/cafes was frequently mentioned by 41.6%, 84.2% and 90.5% respectively. SHS exposure in a bar/club/café was noted more among single individuals (p=0.004) and those aged 18-34 years (p=0.007).

Conclusions
Inhabitants of rural areas were more likely to report someone smoking indoors in all the above venues. Public health education and effective enforcement of the nationwide smoke-free legislation are imperative.

Authors' details
1Center for Health Services Research, Department of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, School of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, 11527, Greece. 2Center for Global Tobacco Control, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Harvard School of Public Health, West Boston, 02115, Massachusetts, USA. 3Smoking and Lung Cancer Research Center, Hellenic Cancer Society, Athens, 11521, Greece. 4Foundation for Biomedical Research of the Academy of Athens, Athens, 115 27, Greece. 5Department of Environmental Health, Harvard School of Public Health, 677 Huntington Avenue Landmark, West Boston, MA 02115, USA.

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