

Study Protocol for:

Assessment of the compliance level and monitoring trends in compliance over time with the Smoke Free Air Law in Michigan

Title

Assessment of the compliance level with the Michigan Smoke Free Law in hospitality venues.

Introduction and background

Before the Michigan smoke free law went into effect May 1st 2010, the MDCH, tobacco section with assistance from the local health departments, communities of color agencies, and other community agencies had conducted and still conducting community and businesses presentations about the smoke free law to educate the people and the business's owners and managers about the implementation and enforcement and how to comply with the law.

After the law goes into effect on May 1st, the CDC recommends documenting the compliance rate overtime to determine if the smoke-free law is being followed. One of these studies is by conducting anonymous monitoring of the hospitality establishments.

Purpose

By assessing the compliance level, this study will show that the law is workable and people support the law, will demonstrate that the law being enforced and will identify types of venues with low compliance that may need more education.

Local Tobacco Prevention Coordinators and their local Tobacco Reduction Coalitions active adults members or volunteers of age 21 or older, will conduct anonymous monitoring of 20 establishments in total (14 restaurants, 4 bars, and 2 bowling) Per County for single county health department and 10 venues (7 restaurants, 2 bars & 1 Bowling alley) per county for multi-county health departments.

Method & Sample

Local Tobacco Prevention Coordinators and their respective local Tobacco Reduction Coalitions. Coalition members or volunteers of age 21 or older will anonymously check 20 establishments (14 restaurants, 4 bars, and 2 bowling) within each county for single county health department and 10 venues (7 restaurants, 2 bars & 1 Bowling alley) per county for multi-county health departments, they are working or volunteering for the compliance with Dr. Ron Davis Smoke Free Air Law. For each venue, they will complete short survey (copy is attached). This survey should be completed upon exiting the venue (possibly in the car) and the monitoring done without anybody in the venue made aware

of what is happening. We call these monitoring visits as observational compliance check visits and they should occur on different business days and weekends if possible.

The sampling method for the study will be "Stratified Cluster Sampling" by which each County will be divided to strata (cities) and the clusters inside these strata will be clusters of (restaurants) and clusters of (Bars). By simple random selection, the locals will select their 14 restaurants and 4 bars from the clusters in each strata and the bowling alley will be the one in the main cities.

At least 20 per County will bring the total number to 800 venues checked; those same venues will be visited three times over the course of the year, with the first visit, three months after implantation, the second visit six months after implementation and finally one year after implementation.

Period of the study

1. The first round of the observational compliance check visits will be conducted during the month of August 2010.
2. The second round will be during November 2010.
3. The third and final round will be conducted on the first anniversary of the smoke free law, May 2011.

Risk/incentive

Minimal risk is expected to the restaurant's owners and managers and to the volunteers especially when being recognized by the owners or managers of these venues which will be risk of showing their frustration and emotional upset.

To minimize this risk, staff from the Michigan Tobacco Section, will train the local coordinators about the procedures of performing these checks.

Data Management

Data will be entered into a secured, electronic Excel file and analyzed in SPSS. The anonymous data will be shared with local agencies upon request.

Study Team

The study team will provide the technical assistance throughout the duration of the study to all participating agencies, and will conduct the data analysis and share results with them. The study team will involve staff members from the MDCH Tobacco Section.

Instructions for volunteers:

Some instruction to the local coordinators and volunteers conducting the visits:

- Dress appropriately for the establishments you will be visiting.
- Keep a clipboard in the car with the surveys; fill out surveys when you return to the car. **Do not** bring a clipboard into the establishment or look official in anyway.

- **No one should realize you are conducting this survey.**
- A good technique is to pretend you are looking for a friend. Have a mythical description/name in mind in case someone asks you a question. If you are looking for someone, that explains why you would walk around and be looking around an establishment. If there are multiple rooms open to the public, try to visit all the rooms. In some establishments, a bouncer will let you in for a moment to “look for a friend.”
- Safety is critical – please skip any establishments that you do not feel comfortable entering and go to the next in the selection.