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with Military Personnel

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Herbert H. Severson, Ph.D.

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## INTRODUCTION

While smoking cessation has received considerable attention within the military, the use of smokeless tobacco (chewing tobacco and snuff) has not been a focus of medical services or research. Epidemiological data suggest that while smoking has continued to decline both in the general population and within the military, the use of smokeless tobacco products has increased. The primary objective of this research is to develop and evaluate an intervention for smokeless tobacco cessation comprised of proactive recruitment, targeted written and video materials mailed to the subject, and phone call support. The primary hypothesis to be tested is that subjects randomized to receive the intervention will quit their tobacco use at a significantly higher rate than subjects receiving usual care. Active duty U.S. Armed Forces personnel stationed at six military locations that are identified as current ST users when completing their annual preventive oral health assessment will be recruited to participate in a randomized two-group design that compares a brief contact intervention with the usual preventive health care. Follow up assessments by mail at 3 and 12 months after randomization will assess the impact of the program.

## BODY

In the first year of our grant, we have developed the materials to be used in the intervention, including a cessation manual and video tailored to military personnel and telephone counseling scripts that incorporate Motivational Interviewing principles to encourage cessation. We have made progress in recruiting the intervention sites, securing Army and Air Force sites and identifying potential Navy and Marine sites. We have also piloted our enrollment procedure at both Air Force and Army sites, and revised the procedure according to feedback received from dental office staff and enrollees. A modified consent procedure submitted on April 8, 2003 is currently under review by the Department of Defense IRB at Fort Detrick.

### Recruitment of Intervention Sites

#### Army and Air Force

Following are the Army and Air Force sites that have agreed to participate in our study. The point of contact (POC) is the person located on the base who will oversee the project at that base. The liaison is the person who will deliver and pick-up surveys from the dental office, and will facilitate communication between dental staff and project staff.

	<u>Base</u>	<u>POC</u>	<u>Liaison</u>
<b>Air Force</b>	Lackland AFB, TX	Alan Peterson	Sharron Gott
	Dyess AFB, TX	Marlin Moore	Sharron Gott
	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	Jeff Cigrang	Jeff Cigrang
<b>Army</b>	Fort Sam Houston, TX	Katherine Vriend	Sharron Gott

The Lackland, Wright-Patterson, and Fort Sam Houston sites have cleared our protocol through their IRBs and have begun pilot testing the enrollment procedure. The Dyess AFB site has

agreed to participate and will request local approval by the commander as soon as our revised consent procedure (see section below) has been approved by the Ft. Detrick IRB. Wilford Hall Medical Center's IRB will serve as the IRB for the Dyess AFB site. An additional Army site, Fort Hood, is supportive of hosting our intervention. We will be meeting with them in the coming months to finalize their participation as an intervention site.

### Navy and Marines

Progress identifying Navy and Marine bases was slowed early in the process when concerns were expressed about our identifying a site for the intervention before the intervention had been approved through the Navy IRB. Our process with Air Force and Army sites had been to first gauge the interest of behavioral health personnel at the base who would be willing to work with us, and to then to go the IRB for that base to obtain approval. The Navy sites required that we first get general approval from the Navy before contacting individual sites. We then worked with Dr. Larry Williams and Commander McGowan to elicit the Navy's support of our intervention. After succeeding in this effort, we made contact with the Naval Dental Center Southwest and Camp Pendleton in San Diego, and Dr. Severson made a site visit accompanied by Dr. Williams to elicit the support of key personnel at this base. We will submit our intervention protocol for review at the IRBs for each of these locations as soon as the Department of Defense IRB at Ft Detrick has approved our revised protocol.

### **Piloting Cessation Materials**

We have initiated pilot testing of our intervention at three sites: Lackland AFB (Wilford Hall Medical Center), Texas, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio and Ft. Sam Houston (Brooke Army Medical Center), Texas. Pilot testing of the original enrollment procedure demonstrated that only 50% of individuals who reported using smokeless tobacco were enrolling in our study. Because this is a population health trial, this level of participation is problematic.

A key component of this study is the use of a population health approach. We know from previous research (Bray et al., 1999) that approximately 67% of active duty military tobacco users are interested in quitting tobacco. However, fewer than 5% of these individuals ever volunteer to attend formal, clinic-based tobacco cessation programs. In our pilot study for this grant (Cigrang, Severson, & Peterson, 2002) we found that when our minimal-contact intervention (video plus manual) was offered to 100% of a population of smokeless tobacco users, 65% indicated that they had been thinking about quitting and were interested in receiving the cessation materials through the mail, receiving additional phone calls, and making a quit attempt. Our pilot study also found a trend for greater cessation rates, as compared to the usual care control arm, for those individuals assigned to the intervention arm even if they did NOT choose to receive our cessation materials and make a quit attempt. It appears that the brief proactive contact of individuals using motivational interviewing approaches may have prompted some individuals to quit on their own. This population health approach in which the minimal-contact intervention is offered to 100% (or as close to 100% as possible) of those individuals assigned to the intervention arm is a key component of our study. We did not propose this study as a simple randomized controlled trial in which we actively recruit individuals who are interested in quitting smokeless tobacco. We want to obtain follow-up measures of smokeless tobacco use for those participants randomized to the intervention arm of the study regardless of whether they choose to receive the cessation materials and make a formal cessation attempt. We

also want to measure the effect of proactive contact of smokeless tobacco users using motivational interviewing approaches to determine the potential impact of this brief proactive phone call. Thus, it is very important that we streamline the initial consent portion of the study to encourage as close to 100% population participation as possible.

Therefore we are proposing a revision to the enrollment procedure to the Department of Defense IRB at Fort Detrick. Our original enrollment procedure was initiated through the dental clinic receptionist and depended on self-report of tobacco use. All patients were given questionnaire packets, which asked about smokeless tobacco (ST) use on the cover sheet. If they reported being a regular ST user they were asked to fill out the attached consent form and baseline questionnaire. Anecdotal evidence from dental office staff suggested that patients were underreporting tobacco use and were daunted by the lengthy consent form that was used in this procedure, resulting in only half of current users agreeing to participate.

The revised procedure that we are proposing will initiate enrollment through the dental care providers who will have already identified the individual as a smokeless tobacco user, as required by the protocol of the annual dental exam. Providers will then recommend participation in our clinical trial and ask patients to fill out a shortened one-page consent form (see Appendix for proposed revised consent form). Participants who fill out the baseline questionnaire and are randomized to the treatment group will be contacted by phone and given the opportunity to participate in the intervention, which consists of two additional supportive phone calls and a cessation manual and video sent in the mail. If participants are interested in making a quit attempt, they will be sent the manual and video and will receive two follow-up phone calls. We hope that streamlining the consent procedure will allow us to conduct the study as a population health trial and obtain maximum possible enrollment.

When the study procedures were reviewed by the IRB at Wilford Hall Medical Center at Lackland AFB, the committee brought up a concern that answering two of the questions about alcohol use and depression could put participants at risk. These questions could provide information that would need to come to the attention of participants' superiors (i.e., if they are exhibiting alcoholic behavior or severe depression). In response to these concerns we removed these two questions on alcohol and depression; however, less sensitive questions on alcohol use and depression are still included in the survey (see Appendix for proposed revised baseline survey). Additionally, to protect the privacy of participants, all data will be owned and managed by Oregon Research Institute and will not be part of the participants' medical or military records. These data will not be accessible to military personnel, except in summary form.

We are currently awaiting approval of the new procedures from the IRB at Ft Detrick, after which we will conduct further pilot testing. If demonstrated to be effective, we will begin the intervention in August 2003.

### **Development of Targeted Cessation Manual**

The "Enough Snuff" guide for quitting smokeless tobacco by Drs. Severson and Gordon was revised to target a military audience. We revised the content of this self-help cessation guide to reflect the unique issues of using smokeless tobacco in a military environment, with input from Major Cigrang and Lt Col Peterson, co-investigators on the project. For example, in the

“Reasons for Quitting Smokeless” section of the manual, we added the reason: “Using smokeless tobacco can compromise your military readiness”. Testimonials from focus groups and interviews with Air Force and Army smokeless tobacco users suggested that this is a unique issue for military smokeless tobacco users. When they are deployed tobacco users are often unable to maintain their supply of tobacco and thus have to go through withdrawal symptoms while experiencing the stress of a deployment. Quotes from military smokeless tobacco users were also incorporated in the manual to further direct it towards a military audience. We also designed a new cover for the manual with photos of military personnel on duty from all branches of service. Manuals were shown to focus groups of military ST users and we received positive feedback on the design and content (a copy of the manual is included with this report).

### **Development of Targeted Cessation Video**

We are filming an original video for this project that incorporates testimonials from actual military smokeless tobacco users in a step-by-step motivational quitting video. This video follows the same format as previous motivational videos for quitting smokeless tobacco designed by Dr. Severson and Intervision Media; however, this version is targeted specifically to a military audience.

In October 2002 we conducted seven focus groups of current and former smokeless tobacco users who were stationed at Army and Air Force bases in and near San Antonio. Seventy-eight people participated in these focus groups. We then invited a subset of the focus group participants to do videotaped interviews about quitting their smokeless tobacco use. These interviews were conducted in November 2002 at Lackland Air Force Base. From these interviews, we selected the best clips to illustrate each of the major points in the video. We also recruited a narrator for the video from the focus groups. The narrator is a pararescue training instructor based at Lackland AFB who previously quit using smokeless tobacco. Filming of the video narration occurred in May 2003, and the projected completion date for the video is June 2003.

The major obstacle in the completion of the video has been getting testimonials from Navy and Marine personnel to incorporate in the video. The video was originally designed to be relevant to all branches of service, and we were planning to have testimonials from Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marine individuals. However we ran into many obstacles in recruiting Navy and Marine personnel. Our first struggle was in targeting a Naval/Marine base and connecting with a point of contact who was willing to work on the project with us. Once we identified a Naval base in San Diego that was potentially willing to host the intervention, they required that we gain IRB approval for the intervention before recruiting individuals to be interviewed for the video, even though these individuals are not study participants. We are currently working on getting this approval.

Because of the delay with the Navy and Marine bases, we have decided to create a working version of the video that has only Air Force and Army personnel giving testimonials. This will allow us to initiate the intervention on Air Force and Army bases without having to wait for the recruitment of Navy and Marine personnel to give testimonials to be included in the video.

## Development of Tailored Telephone Counseling Scripts

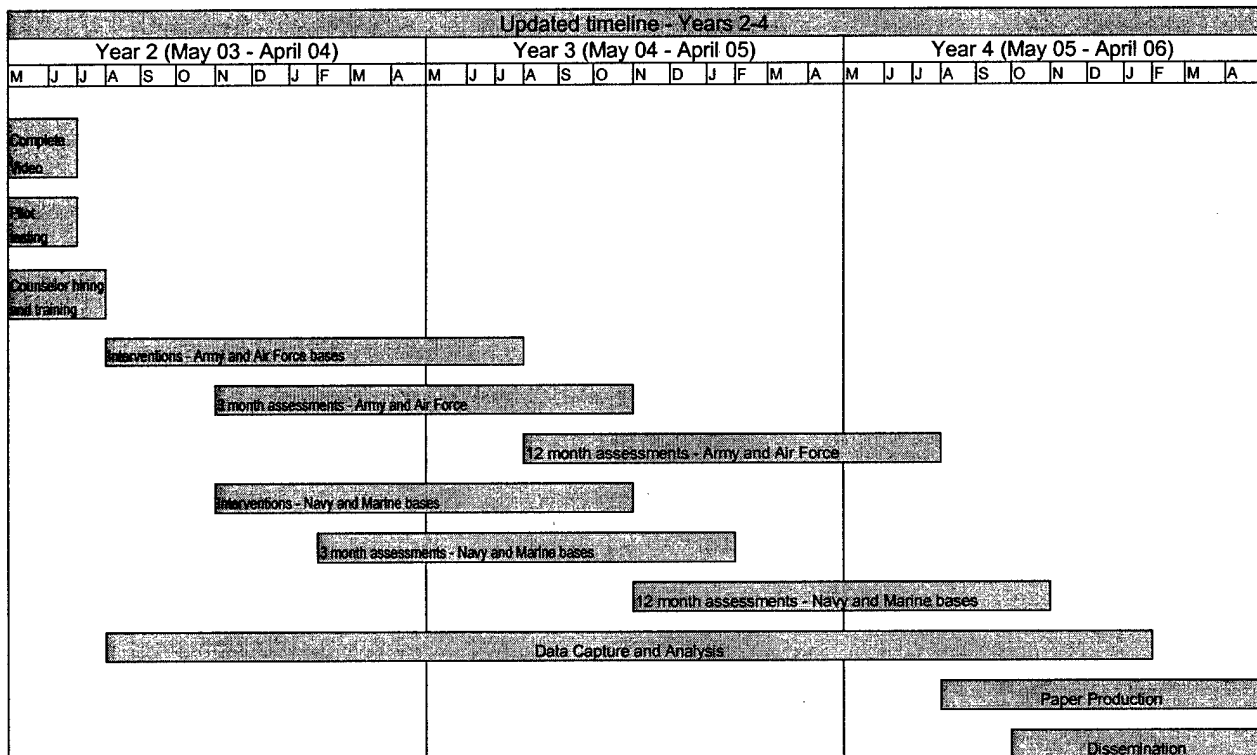
A crucial part of the intervention in this study is the phone call support given by project phone counselors. We have developed a script that incorporates Motivational Interviewing (MI) techniques to reinforce participants' own motivation for quitting smokeless tobacco. Our consultant in developing the scripts was Kathy Mount, an MI trainer who trains Tobacco Quitline counselors and has experience with both tobacco cessation counseling and the use of MI techniques in research projects. We have pilot tested these scripts and found that 100% of participants who were contacted agreed to receive our intervention materials. We are in an ongoing process of revising these scripts based on our interventions with pilot subjects, and will finalize them prior to initiating the intervention. In July of 2003, Kathy Mount will travel to Lackland AFB to train our project phone counselors in Motivational Interviewing techniques.

## Hiring of Project Staff

The following staff have been hired in the first year of the grant:

<u>name</u>	<u>title</u>	<u>hire date</u>
Katie Clawson	Administrative Assistant – ORI	4/15/02
Kristi Klein, Ph.D.	Project Coordinator – ORI	4/15/02
Joyce Dudley	Administrative Assistant – Lackland	7/1/02
Sharron Gott, Ph.D.	Project Coordinator – Lackland	10/7/02
Annette Martinez	Phone Counselor – Lackland	5/5/03

## Revised Timeline



## KEY RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Targeted cessation manual completed
- Targeted cessation video nearing completion (target completion date- June 2003)
- 49 pilot subjects enrolled
- Phone script developed and piloted

## REPORTABLE OUTCOMES

Severson, H. H. & Gordon, J. S. (2003). Enough Snuff: Quitting Smokeless Tobacco, A Guide for Military Personnel (Military Edition). Eugene, OR: Applied Behavior Science Press.

## CONCLUSIONS

As we are still in the development stages of this project, we have come to no conclusions in our research. We met our goals for the Year 1 of the project; however we will be delayed in beginning our interventions in Year 2 due to difficulties we encountered in recruiting Navy and Marine bases and the delayed response of the Ft Detrick IRB in our request for changes to the enrollment protocol.

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- Bray RM, Sanchez RP, Ornstein ML, Lentine D, Vincus AA, Baird TU, Walker JA, Wheelless SC, Guess LL, Kroutil LA, Iannacchione VG. (1999). 1998 Department of Defense survey of health related behaviors among military personnel. Research Triangle Institute (RTI/7034/006-FR).
- Cigrang, JA, Severson, HH & Peterson, AL (2002). Pilot evaluation of a population health intervention for reducing use of smokeless tobacco. *Nicotine & Tobacco, 4*; 1-4.

## APPENDICES

Enough Snuff: A guide for quitting smokeless tobacco. Copyright 2003. Herbert H. Severson and Judith S. Gordon. Eugene, OR: Applied Behavior Science Press. Sixth Edition.

Proposed Revised Consent Form (under review by Department of Defense IRB, Ft Detrick)

Proposed Revised Baseline Survey (under review by Department of Defense IRB, Ft Detrick)

### Statement of Informed Consent: Smokeless Tobacco Use in Military Personnel

This clinic is taking part in a smokeless tobacco research study. **If you chew tobacco or use snuff**, we would like you to sign this form agreeing to participate in this study. We would like to get as close as possible to 100% of smokeless tobacco users to participate.

Participating in this study includes the following:

- 1) Filling out the attached survey. All information collected in this study will be kept confidential. Only research staff will have access to this information. All data will be stored by Oregon Research Institute, and this information will not be available to your dentist, other health care providers, or to anyone in the military. All identifying information will be kept separately from your research data, and all data will be kept in locked files.
- 2) You might be contacted by phone and offered a smokeless tobacco cessation program. If you agree to participate by signing this form, we will decide by the toss of a coin whether you will be assigned to the treatment group or the control group. If you are assigned to the treatment group we will call you to talk about your tobacco use and offer you a cessation program that would help you quit using smokeless tobacco on your own at home.
- 3) You will receive by mail two more surveys similar to this one, the first in three months and the second in a year. The data on these surveys will also be kept completely confidential and will be coded by an id number, not your name. These questionnaires will be mailed directly to Oregon Research Institute and will be stored there.

**You do not need to be ready to quit smokeless tobacco to fill out the tobacco use surveys.** If you do choose to participate, you are free to withdraw from the study at anytime.

The only risks involved in participating in this study are:

- 1) Loss of confidentiality. We will be getting personal information from you. There is always the slight possibility that someone who is not authorized might see it. However, we will take every precaution to assure that your data remain anonymous.
- 2) Discomfort in discussing your use of tobacco. You may be unaccustomed to talking with someone about your tobacco use. However, our counselors have been extensively trained in this area and will be helpful, courteous, and respectful of your needs.

The benefit of participating in this study is that you could receive a free smokeless tobacco quitting program that may help you quit or reduce your use of chew or snuff. Quitting tobacco may be the most important lifestyle change you can make to improve your health.

Yes, I am interested in participating in this study.

By signing below I give my consent for the information I provide on the attached survey to be used by scientists at Oregon Research Institute (Eugene, Oregon). I understand that completing this survey is voluntary, that I may choose to skip any question, and that this information will be kept completely confidential.

I also give my consent to possibly be contacted in the future and offered a smokeless tobacco cessation program, and to be sent a follow-up survey in the mail in three months and again in a year.

Printed name / rank	Signature	Date
---------------------	-----------	------

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Put a \* next to the number where you would prefer to be contacted

No, I am not interested in participating in this study. Age \_\_\_ years old Sex:  Male  Female



# Enough



# SMOKELESS

**A GUIDE FOR QUITTING SMOKELESS TOBACCO**

Herbert H. Severson, PhD, Judith S. Gordon, PhD

Applied Behavior Science Press

Sixth Edition

# **Enough SNUFF**

## **A Guide to Quitting Smokeless Tobacco**

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Herbert H. Severson, Ph.D.  
Judith S. Gordon, Ph.D.

Applied Behavior Science Press  
SIXTH EDITION

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# Enough Snuff: A Guide to Quitting Smokeless Tobacco

Herbert H. Severson, Ph.D.,  
Judith S. Gordon, Ph.D.

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A final credit is due the thousands of users of the guide and to many who have offered suggestions for revision. It is to them that we continue to dedicate this book.

Herbert H. Severson & Judith S. Gordon  
December 2001

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# Introduction

This self-help guide is designed to help you quit using snuff or chewing tobacco. You've probably thought about quitting and maybe even tried to quit one or more times. It's not an easy habit to break. There is no magic formula. The most important factor in your success is your desire and motivation to quit. If you want to quit, then this guide can help.

The steps described in this manual have been effective for chewers and dippers just like you. This book has helped people of all ages who used chew or snuff and wanted to quit. The *Enough Snuff* guide shares with you the ideas that we have tried and have found successful. This revised edition has incorporated ideas and tips that users have shared with us.

This guide provides you with a four-step process for quitting.

## **1. Get Ready**

## **2. Plan to Quit**

## **3. Deal with Withdrawal**

## **4. Stay off Chew or Snuff**

Use this guide to help you break your tobacco habit now and stay off chew.

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# Key Steps in Quitting

There are four steps for you to use to quit snuff or chewing tobacco. They are:

## 1. Get Ready

- Track use patterns
- Assess addiction
- Determine readiness to quit
- Review reasons for quitting

## 2. Plan to Quit

- Select a quit plan
- Set a quit date
- Get support

## 3. Deal with Withdrawal

- Drink liquids and stay active
- Use chew substitutes
- Use nicotine replacement
- Consider Zyban®
- Try relaxation exercises

## 4. Stay off Chew and Snuff

- Anticipate tough situations
- Plan ahead for urges
- Try again

This guide is organized around each of these steps. Follow the steps and select the quit plan that you want to use.

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# 1. Get Ready

The first step in your quit attempt is to get ready. To get ready, you will want to:

- Track your use of snuff or chew,
- Take a look at your level of addiction to tobacco,
- Review your reasons for wanting to quit, and
- Figure out your readiness to quit at this time.

## **TRACK USE PATTERNS**

The Tobacco Use Survey on the next page is a way for you to track your pattern of smokeless use and your level of cigarette and alcohol use. Smoking and drinking alcohol often accompany smokeless tobacco use and can affect your success in quitting. Complete the survey and then use the information on page 12 to determine your pattern of use.

## Tobacco Use Survey

### Use of Smokeless

1. What form of smokeless do you use?  
 moist snuff     loose leaf chew     plug     twist     other
2. What brand of chew or snuff do you use? \_\_\_\_\_
3. How many years have you regularly dipped/chewed tobacco? \_\_\_\_\_ years
4. Do you use smokeless tobacco every day?    yes    no
5. How long have you used smokeless daily?    \_\_\_\_\_ years    \_\_\_\_\_ months
6. How many days does a tin/pouch last you? (please circle your answer)  
1    2    3    4    5    6    7    8 or more
7. On average, how many dips/chews do you take each day?  
 1-3     4-6     7-9     10 or more
8. How many of your five best friends use smokeless tobacco? (please circle)  
none    1    2    3    4    5

**Optional:** What is your daily use pattern? On page 14 there is a form which can be used to help you evaluate your daily use of snuff or chew. This can help you see the times of the day that you use chew and the level of need you feel for each chew/dip.

### Smoking

9. Have you ever smoked tobacco regularly?     yes     no  
If yes, what did you smoke?     cigarettes     cigars     pipe
10. Do you currently smoke tobacco?     yes     no  
If yes, how much do you smoke? \_\_\_\_\_ (number of cigarettes or cigars per day)
11. Did you ever smoke while trying to quit dipping or chewing?     yes     no

### Quitting

12. How many times have you made a serious attempt to quit using smokeless tobacco in the last 12 months?     none     1     2     3     4     5 or more
13. How long has it been since your last attempt to quit using smokeless tobacco?  
\_\_\_\_\_ months    \_\_\_\_\_ I have not attempted to quit
14. Are you currently experiencing any oral health problems you can trace to your use of smokeless? (sores in mouth, bleeding, receding gums, etc.)     yes     no

### Alcohol

15. In an average week, how many drinks of alcohol do you have? (one drink = one glass of beer or wine or one shot of liquor)  
 none     1-5     6-10     11-15     more than 15
16. In the past month, how many times did you have **5 or more drinks on a single occasion**?  
 none     once     twice     three     four     5 or more

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## What Your Answers Mean

### Use of Smokeless

If you use chew daily, use a high-nicotine brand such as Copenhagen (see chart on page 26), have friends who use chew, or have used smokeless for years, then chew or snuff is a big part of your life. You may want to use nicotine gum or patches if you have tried to quit and found it difficult. You may also want to avoid your friends who chew or dip for the first few days after you have quit (Questions 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, & 8).

### Smoking

If you smoke cigarettes, especially when you're trying to quit dipping or chewing, it will be more difficult for you to quit the smokeless habit. Stop the use of all tobacco. Don't smoke cigarettes or cigars when quitting (Questions 9, 10, & 11).

### Previous Quit Efforts

If you have previously tried to quit, your chances of success are good. By trying to quit, you have shown how much you want to quit. Many people do not quit the first time they try, but succeed with later attempts (Questions 12, 13, & 14).

### Use of Alcohol

If you drink alcohol often (4 to 7 times a week), or drink 5 or more drinks at a time when you drink, you may have a harder time quitting your smokeless habit. Smokeless users often dip or chew more when they drink alcohol. Try to cut down or quit using alcohol while you quit smokeless (Questions 15 & 16). The use of alcohol with chew or snuff greatly increases your risk of oral cancer.

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## ASSESS ADDICTION

This step is helpful in determining whether you should use either nicotine gum or patches as a nicotine replacement in your plan for quitting. The scale below will assess your dependence on, or addiction to, snuff or chew.

### Smokeless Tobacco Dependence Scale ©

**Instructions:** Circle your response to each question and total the points to obtain your score. Points for each response are in parenthesis. (Total scores range from 1 - 11)

1. How many tins/pouches of smokeless tobacco do you typically use each week?  
A. 1 or less (1)                      B. 2 - 4 (2)                      C. 5 or more (3)
2. How often do you use smokeless tobacco?  
A. 1 day per week or less (0)    B. 2 - 5 days per week (1)    C. 6 - 7 days per week (3)
3. Do you intentionally swallow tobacco juices?    A. no (0)    B. yes (1)
4. Do you use smokeless tobacco when you are sick or have mouth sores?  
A. no (0)    B. yes (1)
5. How soon after waking from your normal sleeping period do you use chewing tobacco or snuff?  
A. more than 30 minutes after waking (0)    B. within 30 minutes of waking (1)
6. Do you smoke cigarettes?    A. no (0)    B. yes (1)
7. Is it difficult for you not to use smokeless tobacco where its use is restricted or not allowed?    A. no (0)    B. yes (1)

Total Score: \_\_\_\_\_

### Scoring:

If you scored **4 or less**, you are slightly addicted. Quitting cold turkey is recommended (page 24).

If your score is **5 or 6**, you are moderately addicted to chew or snuff. You may want to reduce your use of chew before quitting and plan for some withdrawal symptoms.

If you have a score of **7 or more**, you are highly addicted and dependent on smokeless. You should consider using nicotine gum, nicotine skin patches, or Bupropion (Zyban®) as a way to reduce withdrawal symptoms.



## DETERMINE READINESS TO QUIT

### Are you ready to quit your use of chewing tobacco or snuff?

The first step is to determine your readiness to quit. One way to assess your readiness is with a Readiness Ladder.<sup>1</sup> Each rung on this ladder represents where various chewers are in their thinking about quitting. Circle the number that indicates where you are now.

#### Readiness Ladder

10	• I am ready to quit now.
9	
8	• I have cut down or am seriously thinking about quitting.
7	
6	• I am thinking about cutting down or quitting spit tobacco.
5	
4	• I think I should quit but I'm not quite ready.
3	
2	• I think I need to consider quitting some day.
1	
0	• I am not ready to quit.

To increase or firm up your motivation to quit, continue to the next section of this guide to identify your reasons to quit.

1. Adapted from Beiner, L. & Abrams, D.B. (1991). The contemplation ladder: Validation of a measure of readiness to consider smoking cessation. *Health Psychology*, 10, 360-365.

## REASONS FOR QUITTING SMOKELESS

### 1 ■ Both snuff and chew cause sores in your mouth.

*"The dentist stated that I needed to really think about quitting chewing tobacco because it was staining my teeth, let alone receding the gums."*  
-- Pat

*"I got my teeth cleaned, and after the appointment, my dentist sat me down and really strongly suggested that I quit chewing 'cause it started making little white bumps along my gums and it started to wear my gums out."*  
-- Jerry

These white patches or sores in your mouth are called leukoplakia (loo-ko-play'-kia). These lesions form where you keep your tobacco and can lead to cancer of the mouth! They occur in over half of all users in the first three years of use. Studies have found that 60-78% of users have oral lesions. It is important to look for lesions in your mouth and on your tongue. This is best done by a dentist or hygienist. (See Appendix A for instructions on how to "Check Out Your Mouth.")

#### **Level 2 Lesion**

Note the rough appearance of the tissue and mild furrows or folds in the tissue. Skin often has white coloration.



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## 2. Smokeless tobacco contains cancer-causing elements.

These chemicals are called nitrosamines (ni-tro-sa-meens) and have been proven to cause cancer. Small amounts of nitrosamines are contained in bacon, beer, and other foods, but snuff contains up to 1200 times the amount allowed in food.

### Level 3 Lesion

Skin is more furrowed or has deep folds in the tissue. Bumps are more evident. The skin is a different color on the lesion than on the rest of the mouth. (Also note how the gum is peeling away from the teeth. This can cause loss of teeth.)



## 3. Snuff and chewing tobacco contain other harmful substances.

Smokeless tobacco contains 30 metals and a radioactive compound called polonium-210. Smokeless also contains high concentrations of salt, which can contribute to high blood pressure. In addition, the sugar added to smokeless during processing can cause cavities in teeth.

*"He didn't have a lower jaw because he chewed for so many years, and this man is like in his 40s or 50s, and that scared me."*

*-- Kelly*

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## 4. Smokeless tobacco causes gum disease.

Regular use of smokeless tobacco causes gum recession or peeling back of gum tissue. This recession, or loss of gum, can lead to bone loss and even loss of teeth.

*"My dentist would look at me and say 'Why do you continue doing this, Bob? You need to quit, because your teeth are not looking very good, even though you brush 'em, it seems like you don't brush 'em, because you continue to put a pinch in between your teeth and your lip and it stains them.'"*

*-- Robert*

## 5. Smokeless tobacco increases your chances of getting cancer.

One person dies of oral cancer every hour of every day in the United States. The constant exposure to tobacco juice can cause cancer of the esophagus, pharynx, larynx, and even the stomach and pancreas. Your chances of getting some types of cancer are 50 times greater than for a nonuser. You may think this happens only with 20 years of use, but in some cases it has happened with only 5 years of regular use. There are 32,000 new cases of oral cancer every year in the U.S., and the vast majority of these are due to tobacco use.

## 6. Nicotine is highly addictive.

When you use chew or snuff regularly, you become physically and psychologically addicted to nicotine. Your body craves nicotine, and you experience withdrawal symptoms when you don't have a dip or chew. One reason to quit is to beat your addiction and free yourself of your dependence on nicotine.

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## **7.** Smokeless increases blood pressure and heart rate.

Give your heart a break and be healthier by quitting snuff or chew. Recent studies confirm that smokeless users have a higher risk of heart disease and heart attacks than non-users.

*"My doctor said that the nicotine in chewing tobacco is taking a toll on my blood pressure, which makes me a high blood pressure victim and if I quit, my blood pressure will go down."*

*-- Joanne*

## **8.** Chewing tobacco or snuff is an unclean, unattractive habit.

Spitting tobacco juice is messy and ugly. Using snuff or chew stains your teeth, leaves particles of tobacco in your teeth and mouth, and gives you bad breath. Quitting can clean up your smile and make you more attractive to others.

*"You're talking to somebody that has a big old dip in their mouth and they take a break to spit in a spit cup; I kind of find that disgusting."*

*--Anthony*

## **9.** Chewing tobacco is an expensive habit.

You are spending a lot of money on chew or snuff that you could use for other things in your life. Use the chart on the next page to estimate the amount of money you could save by quitting now. Think of what else you could buy with this money!

*"Keeping some money in my pocket makes me feel a lot better!"*

*-- Marty*

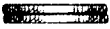
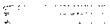
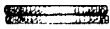
## Amount of Money Saved by Quitting

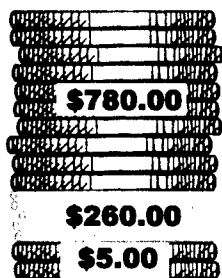
If you are using three tins of snuff per week, quitting will save you over \$780 a year.\*

*"There are financial benefits if you're really a heavy user, and especially like the situations I was in where not only did I support my habit but I supported a lot of guys' habits down at the mill."*

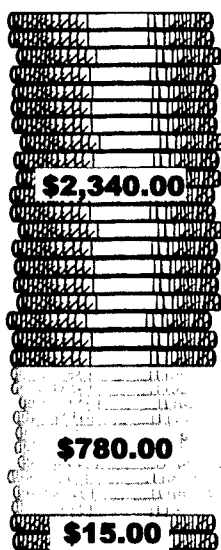
-- Jan

### KEY

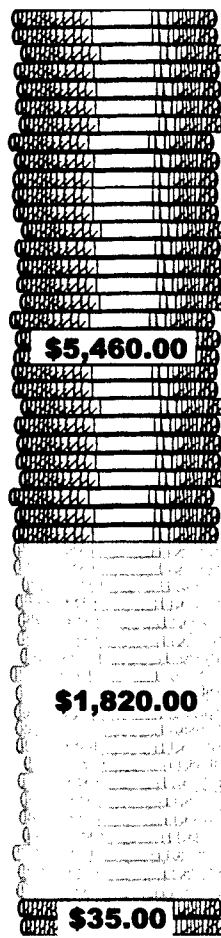
	Savings per 3 years
	Savings per year
	Savings per week



1 tin per week



3 tins per week



1 tin per day

\* based on \$5.00 per tin

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## 10. Using smokeless makes you a bad role model.

You may be concerned that your chewing or dipping could encourage your children or other young people to use snuff or chew. When you use snuff or chew, friends or family members may think it is okay for them to chew. Children who grow up in a household where tobacco is used are much more likely to grow up to be tobacco users themselves. Be a healthy role model and stop using tobacco.

*"I have three boys, and right now, with them getting old enough to be wanting to experiment with things, I don't want them to start chewing."*

*-- Serena*

*"One of the reasons that I quit is because my kids were pickin' up my spit cans and spilling it or trying to drink it."*

*-- Marty*

*"I have two boys, 10 and 12 years old and I didn't want them to chew. If they see me chewing then they think it is okay. I didn't want that to happen."*

*-- John*

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## **Review Your Reasons for Quitting**

In addition to these ten reasons for quitting, you may have other reasons for wanting to quit. The important thing is that you need to want to quit. You need to be motivated. Identifying and reminding yourself of your reasons for quitting will help you to quit and stay off chew. It is important to review health consequences of using chewing tobacco and focus on the benefits of quitting. Remember, you will save money and be healthier, in control, and free of your addiction!

### **List Your Reasons for Quitting Here:**

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

Most Important...

--

(List your most important reason for quitting)

**THINK OF THE BENEFITS OF QUITTING.  
BEAT YOUR HABIT AND TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR LIFE.**

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## 2. Plan to Quit

### SELECT A QUIT PLAN

There are two major ways to quit smokeless, Cold Turkey and Nicotine Reduction. Both approaches are described in the pages that follow. Read about each approach and then choose the method you want to use.

#### Cold Turkey

Most users prefer to quit by abruptly and totally stopping their use of smokeless. In this method you choose a quit date, get ready by preparing yourself, and on that date, you quit all smokeless use.

*"When I chose to quit cold turkey, the things that helped me through it was that I used exercise to be more of a supplement to the use of tobacco."*

-- Albert

#### Nicotine Reduction

In this method, you gradually reduce the amount of nicotine you're exposed to and gradually reduce your dependence on chew and snuff. Some people find this planned gradual decrease is easier since you are reducing the amount of nicotine you use before going cold turkey. This method can reduce the withdrawal symptoms you experience when you quit altogether.

*"When I started gradually cutting down I thought of substitutes like bubble gum, and then what I found to work was Tic Tacs, the plain white Tic Tacs."*

-- Tiger

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## The Cold Turkey Approach to Quitting

- STEP 1.** Set a Quit Day (1-14 days away). Pick a day that is less stressful or one that includes a significant event (i.e., a birthday).
- STEP 2.** Get ready: Tell friends and family of your quit day. Read the manual and develop a plan for handling rough times when you will be tempted to chew. If you are going to use nicotine gum or patches, have them ready.
- STEP 3.** On the quit day, get rid of all snuff or chew. Also, throw away any items that remind you of chew or snuff (hats, shirts with logos, spit cups, etc.). Do not smoke cigarettes, cigars, or a pipe when quitting your chew or snuff. All tobacco products contain nicotine, and if you switch to smoking you will still be dependent on tobacco. The goal is to stop using all tobacco products!

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE  
PROS AND CONS FOR EACH  
APPROACH?

PROS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

CONS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"The 'quit date' was probably the most important aspect of this program. I'd tried to quit in the past, but wasn't successful at. I had to set a date and stick to it. That way I made a commitment to myself and to others."*

*-- Jeff*

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## Nicotine Reduction Approaches to Quitting

These methods are designed to slowly reduce the amount of nicotine that you are getting. Nicotine reduction allows you to use smokeless while you gain more control over your habit. By gradually reducing your nicotine level, you will have fewer withdrawal symptoms. The three most common nicotine reduction approaches are:

### Brand Switching

- STEP 1.** Set your quit day for two weeks from now.
- STEP 2.** If you are a snuff dipper, switch immediately to another brand of snuff that has a lower nicotine content. *For example:* if you use Copenhagen, which has a high nicotine content, switch to a medium nicotine product, like Skoal Long Cut.
- STEP 3.** After one week, switch to a low nicotine brand of snuff, such as Hawken. At the end of the second week, you will be less dependent on nicotine and ready to quit using smokeless. If you use chewing tobacco, switch to a low-nicotine snuff brand for one week or switch to a different chewing tobacco, using Table 1 on the following page as a guide.
- STEP 4.** On the quit day, get rid of all snuff or chew. Also, throw away any items that remind you of chew or snuff (hats, shirts with logos, spit cups, etc.). Remember to stop using all tobacco products!

**Caution:** You must be careful not to use more dips or larger dips after you switch brands. This will defeat the purpose of brand switching to lower your nicotine level.

## Nicotine Content of Snuff Brands

Product	Level of Nicotine (percent of free nicotine)
<b>Skoal</b> Original Pine Cut Wintergreen	<b>Medium High (20%)</b>
<b>Skoal</b> Long Cut Straight Cut Wintergreen Cherry	<b>Medium (19-23%)</b>
<b>Skoal Bandits</b> Classic Wintergreen Hawken Wintergreen Gold River Long Cut	<b>Low (7-10%)</b>



Adapted from Henningfield, Radzius, & Cone, 1995. In *Tobacco Control*, 4(1): 57-61.

PROS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

CONS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"Tapering off worked for me. I chewed for 20+ years and never knew what brand was stronger. Your book educated me in not only the irritation hazards but also the chemical hazards."*

-- Buddy

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## Nicotine Fading

Whether you dip or chew, there is another method of cutting down that you can use. This method of gradually weaning yourself away from nicotine reduces the number of dips or chews you have per day.

- STEP 1.** Set a quit day for two weeks from now.
- STEP 2.** Monitor your use for at least five days. Keep track of the number of dips or chews you use each day. (Self-monitoring form is on page 14).
- STEP 3.** Decrease the amount you use by 1 or 2 dips or chews per day. For example, drop the first chew of the day, or the last one. Pick situations or places that you now chew or dip that you can go without. Plan each day how you will take control.
- STEP 4.** When you're at half of your normal number of dips or chews, you should quit all use of smokeless. On the quit day, get rid of all snuff or chew. Also, throw away any items that remind you of chew or snuff (hats, shirts with logos, spit cups, etc.). Make sure you don't use any other type of tobacco!

PROS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

CONS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

*"I always say don't worry about the stuff you can't control; well this is something I can control and I have to take control of it."*

*-- Tommy*

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## Blending

This method involves blending your snuff with a non-nicotine product to reduce the amount of nicotine you absorb, while maintaining some of the accustomed flavor and taste. This method allows you to gradually reduce the amount of nicotine received. This method works best if the total number of tins used per week stays the same as it did before you began blending. You can experiment a little with the blend and the non-nicotine product used to blend. Users report that this method has worked for them and gradually fades out the flavor of their usual brand of snuff.

- STEP 1.** Set a quit day for two weeks from now.
- STEP 2.** Buy a tin of snuff substitute product, such as Mint Snuff, Golden Eagle, Smokey Mountain, or BACC OFF (a complete list of substitute products may be found in **Appendix B** pg. 46).
- STEP 3.** Blend equal amounts of the non-nicotine substitute product and your usual brand of snuff. Use this mixture for one week.
- STEP 4.** Blend two parts of non-nicotine substitute with one part of your usual brand, to reduce the nicotine intake level to 1/3 of normal. Use this blend for another one week.
- STEP 5.** Finally, switch entirely to the non-nicotine product.
- STEP 6.** On the quit day, get rid of all snuff or chew. Also, throw away any items that remind you of chew or snuff (hats, shirts with logos, spit cups, etc.). Remember not to smoke cigarettes, cigars, or pipes!

PROS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

CONS:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

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## SET A QUIT DATE

Pick a day to quit. Choose a date within the next two weeks and mark it on your calendar or use the calendar on page 30. Don't delay or put it off. Don't make excuses or postpone your quit date.

- Choose a quit day that will be least stressful to you. For example, pick a weekend day if you want to avoid work-related stress. Choose a work day if you want to avoid high-risk times like fishing or hunting. Avoid situations where you will want smokeless the most.
- Choose a date that will give you enough time to make your quit plan.
- Remember, there is no perfect time to quit. Just pick a date and stick to it.
- Let someone you care about know your quit day.

*"One of the biggest things that helped me was to set a date to quit. It gave me time to evaluate, or, should I say, take a look at myself. By setting a quit date I felt like I was gearing myself and making a plan to handle those situations where I would love to chew."*

*-- Thomas*

My quit date is \_\_\_\_\_.

This is the right time to quit. Don't put it off.  
It will not be easier later.  
Face it now, get mentally ready, and quit.

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## Quit Calendar

A calendar helps with your quit plan. Set your day to quit and prepare. For nicotine reduction quit methods you will need to set dates for either changing brands, using less chew, or using a different blend of reduced nicotine snuff. Mark your quit day below, or on your own calendar at home.

(Month)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

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## GET SUPPORT

Don't keep your decision to quit a secret. Research has shown that if you get the support of friends and family, you are going to be more successful in quitting. Quitting takes work and energy. It will be easier if you have the support of friends and family. Explain that you might be irritable or cranky when you are withdrawing from smokeless. Friends and family can give you support and encouragement. Telling others also helps you stay with your decision. Making a **public commitment** to others helps you stay firm in your decision to quit. Share the **Do's and Don'ts** on the next page with your friends or partner.

I have told \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ that I am quitting the use of all tobacco products.

### POSSIBLE SUPPORTERS

- Brother/Sister
- Mother/Father
- Uncle/Aunt
- Spouse/Partner
- Co-workers
- Coach
- Friends
- Neighbors
- Clergy

*"I would go into the sweat lodge every night and I would sweat and pray with my friends, who also had problems with chewing tobacco, alcohol, or whatever the problem might have been."*

*-- Jim*

*"My wife knew a person that got cancer from chewing and so she encourages me not to chew because she doesn't want me ending up like that and having my kids see me like that if I ever got cancer. She strongly urges me to not do that anymore."*

*-- Richard*

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## Support from Friends and Family

Friends and family members may want to help you quit but are not sure what to do. Here are some ideas to share with them. These ideas emphasize the use of positive approaches, rather than negative ones. Studies have shown that people who receive more positive feedback (like compliments) are more likely to quit tobacco use than people who receive negative feedback (like nagging).

Here are some ideas for ways for your friends and family to help:

### Do's and Don'ts

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Do:</b> Congratulate them for their decision to quit when they've made that decision.   | <b>Don't:</b> Ask them to quit using smokeless tobacco.   |
| <b>Do:</b> Compliment them for not using snuff or chew.  | <b>Don't:</b> Try to talk them out of taking a dip or chew.   |
| <b>Do:</b> Help them think of and use non-tobacco substitutes for dipping and chewing.   | <b>Don't:</b> Comment on their lack of willpower.   |
| <b>Do:</b> Celebrate their quitting with them and express pleasure at their efforts to quit.   | <b>Don't:</b> Criticize their chewing.  |
| <b>Do:</b> Express confidence in their ability to quit or stay quit.   | <b>Don't:</b> Express doubt about their ability to quit or stay quit.   |
| <b>Do:</b> Help them calm down if they are feeling stressed or irritable. Participate in an activity that keeps them busy and distracts them from chewing (for example, going on a walk or doing some project together). | <b>Don't:</b> Refuse to let them chew in the house or around you.   |
| <b>Do:</b> Let them know how nice it is to be around them when they aren't using snuff or chew.  | <b>Don't:</b> Comment that snuff or chew is a dirty habit, or mention being bothered by their breath or looks when they chew. |

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## **3. Deal with Withdrawal**

Your body is physically addicted to nicotine, a powerful drug. The withdrawal symptoms you feel when you quit chew are signs that your body is recovering from this addiction. Most of the symptoms are the same as for people who stop smoking, because any tobacco use delivers nicotine into your body.

People have different experiences and may feel different symptoms. Withdrawal does not last long. Nicotine leaves your body quickly and is completely gone within two weeks. You may still experience some craving for chew after two weeks, but this will become weaker and less frequent with each week. There is no way to totally avoid withdrawal symptoms. Five things seem to help.

### **DRINK LIQUIDS AND STAY ACTIVE**

Non-alcoholic drinks and high levels of activity seem to help most people going through withdrawal from nicotine. Drink lots of water (up to eight 8-oz. glasses a day) and stay active. Increase your activity by exercising, working out, walking, or doing whatever movement you can.

### **CHEW AND SNUFF SUBSTITUTES**

Many chewers and dippers report that they need a substitute for the chew or snuff in their mouths. This can help you through the withdrawal from chew or snuff. There is no perfect substitute, but you can try a variety of non-tobacco products. There is a wide range of things that you can use to help fill this need for something in your mouth. People have used cinnamon sticks (the bark, not candy), beef jerky, sunflower seeds, chewing gum, hard candies (sugarless if possible), toothpicks, nuts, non-tobacco substitutes, and swizzle sticks. Some people have even reported using leather and duct tape when nothing else was available! Try different substitutes and see what you like. However, some chewers don't want any oral substitutes.

There are now a number of commercial brands of herbal non-tobacco substitute products that are packaged in a tin to look like snuff. Some are made of mint leaves, while others include clover, alfalfa, and other plant products. Many users find these helpful, as

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they are finely ground to have a texture like snuff and come in a variety of flavors. **Appendix B** contains a list of these products and includes addresses and phone numbers for the companies that make them. Most of these products are distributed nationally and are available in convenience and grocery stores. If you cannot find the products locally, call the toll-free numbers provided and order them directly.

## **NICOTINE GUM OR NICOTINE SKIN PATCH**

If you consider yourself a highly addicted chewer, you might want to consider nicotine gum or the nicotine skin patch. These medications are now available without a prescription.

**Nicotine gum** has been shown to be useful in reducing withdrawal symptoms when you quit chew. If you are a heavy user of smokeless (daily user, use more than 3 tins of snuff per week, and use a high-nicotine product such as Copenhagen), you are a good candidate for using nicotine gum. Follow instructions carefully to minimize side effects. See **Appendix C** for instruction on the proper use of nicotine gum. Please note that the gum will not give you as much nicotine as most chewers get from snuff or chew, and you will need to use at least 10 pieces of 4 mg. gum daily for at least six weeks.

**The nicotine skin patch.** There are several companies that market this product. The advantage of the patch is that it provides a steady dose of nicotine through your skin and you do not need to remember to use the gum. The patch also does not have the side effects, such as upset stomach or gas, which are sometimes reported by gum users. See **Appendix D** on proper use of the nicotine patch.

**Note:** New alternative nicotine delivery systems are coming on the market every year. For example, nicotine inhalers and nicotine nasal spray are now available by prescription. These nicotine replacement therapies have not been evaluated for use with smokeless tobacco users. The nicotine gum and nicotine patches have a long history of use, and chewers have reported a reduction of withdrawal symptoms when they used these products as aids to quitting.

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## **ZYBAN® OR BUPROPION SR**

Zyban® is another medication that has been shown to help cigarette smokers quit. This product has a long history as an anti-depressant medication and may be useful in helping you quit chew or snuff. Recent research has shown that using Zyban can significantly increase your success in quitting. This medication requires a prescription from your physician and you would need to take the medication daily for two weeks prior to your quit day and continue to take daily medication for at least a month. See your doctor for information on the proper use of Zyban. Although this medication has not been recommended by the FDA for use with smokeless tobacco cessation, it may be a useful aid to quitting.

## **BRIEF APPLIED RELAXATION**

Brief applied relaxation combines calm breathing and letting go of muscle tension. If you decide to use this method, try to do it as often as possible, particularly in the beginning. You will find yourself become more relaxed, and the withdrawal symptoms will be much less severe. There are three steps to relaxing:

1. Gently and deeply inhale from your stomach to a count of four.
2. Hold your breath for a count of one.
3. Exhale to a slow count of four. Gently and deeply exhale from your diaphragm and imagine letting go of tension and stress.

Try to do this relaxation exercise for a couple of minutes, several times during the day. The more you practice, the faster and easier it will be to achieve a relaxed state of mind.

You may also find that listening to a relaxation tape or CD will help you learn to relax. See the resource list in **Appendix E** for some suggestions.

## Withdrawal Scale

Copy and use this Withdrawal Scale to measure your withdrawal symptoms daily. At the end of the day or at a set time each day note your symptoms. Compare your symptoms with those on previous days and notice how they disappear or become less severe. Do this for the first seven to ten days and see how it gets better each day.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ The Date You Quit Smokeless: \_\_\_\_\_

Listed below are symptoms people have experienced when quitting tobacco use. Make copies of this scale for each day of your quit program. Fill out a copy every night to keep track of your withdrawal symptoms.

**Instructions:** Rate your withdrawal symptoms by circling the appropriate number.  
(Scale: 0 = none, 10 = as bad as ever experienced)

	<b>None</b>										<b>As bad as ever</b>
Anger	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Anxiety	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Craving for nicotine	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Difficulty concentrating	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Increased appetite	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Restlessness	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Need a chew to feel better	Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Always
Want a chew or dip for pleasure	Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Always
Thinking about a dip or chew	Not at all	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Always

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## Signs of Recovery

The symptoms of nicotine withdrawal are your body's signs of recovery from its addiction. You may experience some of the feelings listed below. Here are some suggestions on how to deal with these symptoms.

SYMPTOM	RESPONSE
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### Mood Changes

Some ex-users experience a change in mood, such as increased irritability, anxiety, or tension. You may feel stressed or nervous. Concentration problems may also occur.

- Breathe deeply/Practice relaxation.
- Increase exercise.
- Avoid alcohol or caffeine.
- Get a massage.
- Concentrate on an activity you enjoy.

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### Sleep Disturbances

Some people sleep all the time. Others wake up at night, unable to fall back asleep, or have vivid dreams.

- Avoid or reduce caffeine.
- Get lots of exercise.
- Go to bed later.
- Try relaxation exercises.
- Drink water and avoid alcohol.

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### Appetite Increase

Sometimes appetite increases when you quit using chewing tobacco. This increase may be a concern if you are worried about weight gain.

- Be aware of what you're eating.
- Eat when you are hungry, not bored or craving chew.
- Try eating hard, sugarless candy.
- Increase exercise & water intake.

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### Cravings

Some users experience a craving for chew or snuff. This strong desire usually subsides in intensity after a short period of time.

- Use coping strategies rather than relying on willpower alone.
- Change your daily routine.
- Breathe deeply.
- Keep active. Get involved in something you enjoy.

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### Constipation/Diarrhea

Some people experience constipation or the opposite reaction when cutting down on nicotine.

- Eat high-fiber foods, such as grains, fruits, and vegetables.
- Diarrhea may require a mild, over-the-counter medication for a day or two.

## 4. Stay off Chew and Snuff

### The Keys Are:

1. Anticipate difficult situations.
2. Plan ahead on how to deal with the urge to use chew or snuff.

*"One of the things I avoided when I quit chewing was hanging around my older brother 'cause he constantly chews and he calls me a sissy too 'cause he started chewing before and I did and he goes, 'here take one,' you know, 'no,' so I had to kinda stay away from him for awhile until I weaned myself."*

*-- Patrick*

*"I'd relapse because somebody would coerce me or, push me and say, 'Oh, come on, once won't hurt,' and a lot of my friends, a lot of people in my social network do chew."*

*- Carl*

Now that you have quit using snuff or chew, there will be times when you will want to use it again. This is normal. You need to be prepared for high-risk situations and plan ahead for how to deal with urges to use spit tobacco so that you do not get hooked again.

### HIGH-RISK SITUATIONS

Think of times, places, or activities where the urge to use chew or snuff will be the strongest. It may be while you are fishing or hunting, watching sporting events, working, or after eating. Think about the times, places, or activities that you expect to be the most difficult for you not to chew.

### PREPARING FOR TOUGH SITUATIONS

There will be situations in which you are at high risk to use chew or snuff. Think of when your need or desire for tobacco has typically been the strongest. These are the places or activities that have become associated with chew. These high-risk situations can trigger an urge to use chew or snuff.

You need to be prepared to deal with these urges to use smokeless. Use the Four A's on the next pages to help you plan how you will deal with urges for chew or with tough situations.

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## TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL QUITTING

You will find that some times and places are a strong reminder to have a dip or chew. We recommend the **Four As** as ways to cope with urges to use smokeless. Since each strategy begins with an A, they're easy to remember.

### **Avoid** **1.**

One way to deal with tough situations is to *avoid* these settings or activities until you have been off chew or snuff long enough to have more confidence in being a nonuser. Maybe you can put off going fishing or being with your chewing friends for a week or two.

### **Alter** **2.**

This strategy is to *alter* your habits to cope better with the urge to chew. If you usually chew when drinking beer at a party or game, you could change to soft drinks or decaffeinated coffee to alter your association with chew. (Avoid alcohol for a while.) Think of ways you can change your pattern of behavior to break up the usual associations you have with chew or dip.

### **Alternatives** **3.**

When you get an urge to chew, you can substitute gum (sugar-free is best), sunflower seeds (unsalted are best), beef jerky, or non-tobacco snuff for your usual chew. Keep hard candies, gum, or seeds with you, so you can use them when you need something in your mouth.

### **Activities** **4.**

A lot of people chew or use snuff when bored or sitting around. Be active. When you get an urge to use chew, take a walk or bike ride, work out with weights, or try any other exercise or activity that can take your mind off the urge to chew.

## DEALING WITH TOUGH SITUATIONS

How will you deal with the situations in which you will want to use chew? Think ahead and plan now so you can act quickly to deal with your urges to use smokeless.

On the table below, briefly describe a situation in which you expect to have an urge to use chew or snuff. Then write out some ideas on how you can deal with it.

TOUGH SITUATION	<b>Enough SNUFF</b>	FOUR As PLAN
Example: Going to a fishing.		Example: Take plenty of hard candies and gum with me, substitute soft drinks or juice. Take non-tobacco substitutes to use if I need it. Tell my buddies I am quitting and maybe just go fishing with non-users.
1. _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	
2. _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	
3. _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	

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## LIVING WITHOUT CHEW OR SNUFF

Quitting is an ongoing process.

You may have slips when you feel a strong urge to use chew.

A slip is normal, but it does not mean you have relapsed.

A one-time use of snuff or chew does not mean you have failed at quitting. Use a slip or occasional lapse to learn how you can deal with that situation next time. It is common to have slips. Now put your effort into staying off totally.

Even if you went back to using smokeless, *quit again*.

Each time you quit, it will be easier.

Some people who quit tobacco addictions have to try several times.

If that is you, make a new plan and quit again — for good!

### REMEMBER

Do Not Use Cigarettes or Cigars  
When Trying to Quit Smokeless!  
Quit Using ALL Tobacco.

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## **CONGRATULATIONS**

### **YOU BEAT THE SMOKELESS HABIT!**

#### Reward yourself

You have quit and you deserve to treat yourself to a reward. Beating your nicotine habit is tough. Be good to yourself and give yourself a special reward like having dinner out or buying some fishing or hunting gear or sports equipment. Tell your friends you are now tobacco-free. Go out and get yourself something special or do something special to reward your effort.

#### You deserve it

You are now an ex-user of snuff or chewing tobacco. Keep in mind *why* you quit. Keep rewarding yourself one month, six months, and one year *after* you quit.

Be aware that urges will continue for a while, and you need to be prepared. If you continue to have cravings, review Section 3 — Dealing with Withdrawal (page 33).

*"Thank you very much. I chewed tobacco for 15 years, and really wanted to quit when I had a family. Now my daughter will not wrinkle her nose when I kiss her."*

*-- Robert*

*"Now I can sit back and look and say, 'Well chew really didn't do me any good.' 'Cause it didn't fix my problems. It didn't make me feel any better. It didn't give me answers to my problems, you know? It was just there."*

*-- Linda*

*"I was tired of tobacco controlling my life. I knew I had to beat it. Now that I have quit I will never go back to using that stuff."*

*-- Marty*

---

## Try Again

### FOR THOSE WHO DID NOT QUIT THIS TIME

**Take it on as a challenge.**

**Beat the habit!**

**You can do it.**

**Get ready.**

**Get motivated.**

**Quit!**

If you used the *Enough Snuff* program and have been unable to quit, don't give up. Quitting is a process. It often takes several tries before quitting for good. If you tried to quit but did not succeed, you are not a failure. Nicotine addiction is tough to beat, and you will need to try again.

Each time you try to quit, you learn something about yourself and what works best for you. Maybe you weren't motivated enough or ready to quit. Most ex-users say that when they succeeded in beating the smokeless habit, they were highly motivated and committed to quitting. Ask yourself, "Did I really try? Did I really want to quit, or was I just going through the motions?"

Learn from your mistakes. What could you do differently next time?

*"Thanks for helping me quit. I tried before, but this time I really made up my mind to do it!"*

-- William

- Was it the wrong time? (for instance, were you under too much stress?)
- Did I have support for quitting from friends and partners?
- Do I need nicotine replacement? (nicotine gum or patches)
- Did I relapse in a situation I could have planned for or avoided?

When you are ready, try again to quit. Like many things worth doing, it may be hard at first, but it is worth the effort.

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## **APPENDIX A**

### **CHECK OUT YOUR MOUTH**

Smokeless tobacco can have harmful effects on your mouth. Doing an oral check will help you identify any problems in your mouth caused by your use of snuff or chew. *Stand in front of a mirror with good lighting and look for the things listed below.*

#### **CHECK YOUR...**

##### **Face and Neck**

Are both sides of your face and neck the same shape? Do both sides look and feel the same? Can you feel a lump on one side but not on the other?

##### **Lips, Cheeks, and Gums**

Pull the lower lip down to check for any sores, color changes, or gum changes. Look especially for white patches or areas where the color or texture of your mouth is rough or has furrows or ridges. Repeat the procedure for the inner cheeks especially *where you hold your tobacco*. Gently squeeze the lip or cheek between your fingers to check for any bumps or soreness.

NOTE: There are two pictures of lesions or sores provided on pages 16 & 17 and on the following page to help you know what to look for. When you first get lesions, you'll have white patches or marks (usually where you keep your tobacco). As the lesions get more advanced, the tissue becomes more furrowed with a greater discoloration and roughness of the tissue inside the mouth.

##### **Floor of Mouth**

Place the tip of your tongue on the roof of your mouth. Place one finger in the floor of your mouth and feel the floor of your mouth to detect any sores, bumps, or swelling.

##### **Roof of Mouth**

Tilt your head back and open your mouth wide enough to observe any color changes or bumps. Also, use your tongue to check for lumps on the roof of your mouth.

##### **Tongue**

Extend your tongue and look at the top surface. Use a piece of cloth or paper towel to gently grasp your tongue and pull it to each side. Gently feel both sides of your tongue with your index finger. Check for any color changes or bumps.

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## Check Out Your Mouth (continued)

Did your mouth exam find anything unusual? If you think that anything is unusual, you should see a dentist or physician as soon as possible. Many of these problems, such as white coloration or bumps or bleeding caused by your use of snuff or chew, will often disappear when you quit using tobacco.

You may not find any problems in your mouth. Quitting now will reduce your risk of future problems in your mouth. Even if you don't quit using spit tobacco, it is a good idea to ***check out your mouth every month.***



A common lesion caused by smokeless tobacco.

Notice the deep furrows or ridges, and whitish appearance of this lesion. Most lesions of this type appear where the chew is held in your mouth. If you discover any type of lesion in your mouth, see a dentist immediately.

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## **APPENDIX B**

### **ORAL SNUFF SUBSTITUTES**

#### **1. GOLDEN EAGLE Herbal Chew**

(flavors: Hibiscus Ginger, Wintergreen, Licorice Mint, and Original Cinnamon)

Write to: Coltsfoot, Inc., P.O. Box 5205, Grants Pass, OR 97528  
1-800-736-8749 or 541-476-8267; Fax 541-476-0205  
goldeneaglechew.com

#### **2. SMOKEY MOUNTAIN Herbal Chew**

(flavors: Cherry, Classic, and Wintergreen)

Write to: Smokey Mountain Chew, Inc.,  
P.O. Box 511310, Milwaukee, WI 53203  
1-800-SMC-CHEW (1-800-762-2439); Fax 414-224-9426  
store.yahoo.com/smokeysnuff

#### **3. YOUNG'S Herbal Chew**

(flavors: Regular, Ginger Red, Arctic Mint, and Wintergreen)

Write to: Young's Chew, 2625 Toqua Road, Chiloquin, OR 97624  
541-783-3826; Fax 541-783-3827  
youngschew.com

#### **4. BACC OFF**

(flavors: Straight, Wintergreen, Extra Wintergreen, Mint, and Cinnamon)

Write to: Dipstop, Inc., 656 Lake Lanier Rd., Selma, AL 36701  
1-800-8NO-CHEW (1-800-866-2439) or 1-602-632-7984  
dipstop.com

#### **5. MINT SNUFF**

(flavors: Original Mint, Wintergreen, and Cinnamon)

Write to: Oregon Mint Snuff Co., Customer Service  
P.O. Box 9, Tillamook, OR 97141  
1-800-EAT-MINT (1-800-328-6468)  
mintsuff.com or quittobacco.com

You can find these products in many supermarkets at about \$2-\$2.50 per can.

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## APPENDIX C

### THE PROPER USE OF NICOTINE GUM

Nicotine gum is now available over-the-counter at drugs stores. The gum comes in 2-mg. and 4-mg. doses and in regular and mint flavors. Chewers report that the 4-mg. dose works better for quitting so we recommend using the 4-mg. dose.

- 1.** When you first quit you should use 10 pieces daily (but not more than 30 pieces). Using at least 10 pieces of gum will provide you with an adequate level of nicotine to minimize some withdrawal symptoms. Don't wait for a craving. Go ahead and use the gum as often as you would use snuff or chew. After two or three weeks, use the gum only when you feel a craving to use smokeless tobacco. Chew one piece of nicotine gum very slowly until you can taste it or feel a tingling sensation in your mouth, about 10-15 chews. This is to soften the gum and release some nicotine.
- 2.** As soon as you can taste the gum, **stop chewing and park the gum in the corner of your mouth, between your cheek and gum.**
- 3.** After the taste or tingling is almost gone, chew slowly again until you taste the gum, then stop chewing. After a few days, you will learn how to adjust your rate of chewing.

*Remember, if you chew too quickly, you may experience side-effects, such as nausea, irritation of the throat, hiccups, or light-headedness. Stomach upset also may occur if you chew too fast, especially on an empty stomach. For best results, read and follow package instructions that come with nicotine gum.*

- 4.** Slowly chewing and then parking the gum releases the nicotine. The nicotine is absorbed through the lining of your mouth, just like with chew or snuff. Because 90% of the nicotine is absorbed in your mouth, it is important not to spit out your saliva, as you may have done while using smokeless tobacco.
- 5.** The gum should be left in your mouth for 20-30 minutes to release all of the nicotine. You should not expect the gum to give you the same satisfaction as smokeless tobacco, but it *can* help relieve craving. Tip: Some chewers report using two pieces of gum at the same time to get a bigger piece in their mouth and to get more nicotine.

*"I used nicotine gum. I started with 4 mg. And now use 2 mg. It really helped me get over this addiction."*

*--Tom*

- 
- 6.** If you find that nicotine gum is not effective in helping relieve some withdrawal symptoms, even after you increase the number of pieces of gum, you can try to chew at certain time intervals. For example, **use a piece of gum every hour**. This technique is more likely to maintain a steady level of nicotine in your body. Some research has shown good results if you use a piece of gum on a fixed schedule like one piece of gum every 45 minutes or hour. Don't wait until you have a craving.
  - 7.** **Do not drink coffee or any other beverages while chewing the gum.** Beverages reduce the amount of nicotine you will absorb in your mouth. Chew your gum first and drink your beverage **after** you are done with your gum. Abstain from drinking all beverages for 10 minutes before using the gum, as the acidity in your mouth is affected by beverages you drink.
  - 8.** If you have any problems or side-effects from the gum, discontinue use or call the toll-free help line provided by the manufacturer. You may also call your physician if the symptoms persist.

## **COST**

Nicotine gum costs about the same as a can of snuff, approximately \$5 per day, if you use the recommended 10 pieces per day. Some insurance companies cover the cost of nicotine gum if your physician prescribes it.

## **WARNING:**

Keep all drugs out of reach of pets and children.  
Contact poison control if nicotine gum or patches  
are accidentally eaten by children or pets.

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## **APPENDIX D**

### **NICOTINE SKIN PATCHES**

The nicotine patch is used as an aid to help reduce cravings and other withdrawal symptoms you experience when quitting tobacco. When the patch is put on the skin, nicotine is gradually released and is absorbed through the skin. There are 24-hour patches and 12- to 16-hour patches. Some patches will use different sizes or doses. For example, with Nicoderm7, which is a 24 hour patch, you will use a 21-mg patch daily for six weeks, then a 14-mg patch for two weeks, and finally the 7-mg patch for the last two weeks (10 weeks total). By moving to smaller dose patches, there is a gradual withdrawal from nicotine. Nicotine patches are now available without a prescription at pharmacies.

Clinical studies have found the nicotine patch doubles the success rate for smokers in their efforts to quit and stay quit. However, there have been few published studies evaluating the use of nicotine patches with chewers. Studies have shown that chewers and dippers using the patch report that it provides relief from withdrawal symptoms.

### **THE USE OF THE PATCH**

The patch is most effective when used with a clear quitting plan, as outlined in this manual. Set a quit date, preferably in the next week or two, and then follow this advice:

- Get rid of all your chewing tobacco, snuff, and cigarettes before your quit day.
- Start applying the patch on your quit day. Don't chew or smoke once you start using the patch.
- Apply a new patch each day, and use a new location daily to avoid skin irritation.
- Keep using the patch for 4 weeks or longer for best results.
- Avoid high-risk situations where urges to chew or dip are strongest.
- Drink lots of water and other non-alcoholic liquids.
- You may still have some cravings and withdrawal symptoms with the patches. Plan on how to deal with this.
- Ask your friends to support your quit effort.
- It's normal to have a slip and use chew or snuff. After a slip, renew your commitment to quitting.

### **COST**

Nicotine patches cost about the same as one tin of snuff a day. The price varies, \$4-5 a day, or approximately \$60 every two weeks. Some insurance companies cover the cost of patches if your physician prescribes them.

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## POSSIBLE SIDE EFFECTS OF NICOTINE SKIN PATCHES

- The most common complaint is skin irritation and sleep disruption. Apply the patch to any part of the body above the waist except the face, and move it to a new spot each day. The skin irritation usually comes from the adhesive used. If a rash persists, discontinue use.
- If you use the patch that delivers a dose of nicotine for 24 hours, you may experience sleep disruption or unusual dreams. You can remove the patch at bedtime and this should take care of that problem.

Read instructions that come  
with nicotine substitute  
products.

*"I have started using a nicotine patch (on recommendation from my doctor) two weeks ago. This patch has really made quitting easier. I have been a heavy user of smokeless for the past 14 years and have tried unsuccessfully to quit several times. I think that I will be successful now."*

-- Glenn

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## **APPENDIX E**

### **RESOURCES ON QUITTING SMOKELESS TOBACCO**

1. The S.T.O.P. Guide: Smokeless Tobacco Outreach and Prevention  
Applied Behavior Science Press  
261 E. 12th Ave, Ste. 210  
Eugene, OR 97401; 1-888-345-8744  
www.appliedbehaviorscience.com
2. Spitting in the Wind: The Facts About Dip and Chew (a color brochure from the National Cancer Institute, produced by the Fox Chase Cancer Center)  
1-800-4-CANCER
3. Enough Snuff & Big Dipper (videos)  
Applied Behavior Science Press  
261 E. 12th Ave, Ste. 210  
Eugene, OR 97401; 1-888-345-8744  
www.appliedbehaviorscience.com
4. Spit Tobacco and Head and Neck Cancer (brochures)  
American Academy of Otolaryngology  
One Prince Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703-836-4444
5. Taking Control: 10 Steps to a Healthier Life, Reduced Cancer Risk, Quitting Spitting, Smokeless Tobacco: A Medical Perspective (photos), & The Cold Hard Facts About Dip.  
American Cancer Society (check your local phone listing or call national headquarters: 1-800-ACS-2345.)
6. The Health Consequences of Smokeless Tobacco. A report from the Surgeon General. (NIH Publication # 86-2874)  
Attn: Louise Groves  
Information Resources Press  
5640 Nicholson Ln., Suite 300  
Rockville, MD 20852  
1-301-231-7537, ext. 205
7. Relaxation/Affirmation Techniques, Relax-Quick!, Relax into Healing: Finding the Peaceful Place Within, & Relax into Healing: Deep Healing Sleep, by Nancy Hopps.  
Audio cassettes & CDs available. Dist. by Baker & Taylor, Music Design, New Leaf and Partners West Publisher.  
Synergistic Systems, publisher order line: 541-683-9088  
www.relaxintohealing.com
8. Sean Marsee's Smokeless Death (1985) Reader's Digest, Reprint Editor  
P.O. Box 406, Pleasantville, NY 10570  
1-800-289-6457 (minimum order 100)
9. Smokeless Tobacco: A Deadly Addiction by Herbert H. Severson, Ph.D.  
Applied Behavior Science Press  
261 E. 12th Ave, Ste. 210  
Eugene, OR 97401; 1-888-345-8744  
www.appliedbehaviorscience.com

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## **About the Authors**

**Herbert H. Severson** received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and is a Senior Research Scientist at Oregon Research Institute and Professor of Counseling Psychology at the University of Oregon. He has been involved with helping smokeless tobacco users for over 20 years.

Dr. Severson has received grants from the National Institute of Drug Abuse and National Cancer Institute to conduct some of the earliest studies on smokeless prevention and cessation. His experience includes research on the use of nicotine gum and patches to help people quit their use of snuff and chewing tobacco. He is currently funded to conduct research on spit tobacco cessation and train dentists and hygienists to counsel patients to quit smokeless. He is also currently funded by the National Cancer Institute to evaluate self-help quitting programs for smokeless users. In this study, the *Enough Snuff* book has proven to be effective in helping hundreds of chewers successfully quit. He has also produced an award-winning video on smokeless entitled *Big Dipper* and is the author of a book on smokeless tobacco entitled *Up to Snuff: A Handbook on Smokeless Tobacco* (2nd Edition, 1998). Other videos co-produced by Dr. Severson are *In Good Taste: Quit Chewing Tobacco to Improve Your Oral Health*, which was used in dental office-based tobacco cessation projects, and *Up to Snuff: A Video Program for Spit Tobacco Cessation*, which outlines the steps to beating the habit. He also produced a special edition of this video program for American Indians which uses only Indian people in providing testimonials and tips. He also co-authored a self-help quit manual for baseball players, *Beat the Smokeless Habit: Game Plan for Success* (1991), which was distributed to all major-league baseball players.

Dr. Severson is one of the authors of the 1994 Surgeon General's Report *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Young People* and a 1994 report by the Institute of Medicine, *Growing Up Tobacco Free: Preventing Nicotine Addiction in Children and Youths*. He also authored *Smokeless Tobacco: A Deadly Addiction* (1997), a booklet on smokeless tobacco for health educators. In addition to more than 100 articles published in professional journals, he co-authored a book published by the National Cancer Institute aimed at oral health professionals entitled *How to Help Your Patients Stop Using Tobacco: A Manual for the Oral Health Team* (1991). He recently authored *The S.T.O.P. Guide: Smokeless Tobacco Outreach & Prevention* (1997), a comprehensive resource on this topic. Together with Steve Christiansen and Tom Jacobs, he recently produced two interactive computer-based cessation programs entitled *Chewer's Choice* and *X-Chew Challenge* for national distribution.

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**Judith S. Gordon** received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Oregon, and is a Research Scientist at the Oregon Research Institute. She has more than 10 years' experience in helping smokeless tobacco users who want to quit. Dr. Gordon has counseled individuals and facilitated smokeless tobacco cessation groups for adult and adolescent smokeless tobacco users.

Dr. Gordon has over 15 years of experience in written and video educational material development. She has collaborated with Dr. Severson on self-help videos and manuals for chewers, and instructional materials for health care professionals who want to help their patients quit. Dr. Gordon has also consulted with Dr. Severson on the development of the interactive computer-based cessation programs, *Chewer's Choice* and *X-Chew Challenge*.

Dr. Gordon has received grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to conduct tobacco cessation and prevention research. She has designed successful programs to teach dental health care workers to counsel their tobacco-using patients, and is currently funded to develop and evaluate a public health approach to tobacco cessation, and a community-based program to prevent adolescent tobacco use.



Herbert H. Severson, Ph.D.



Judith S. Gordon, Ph.D.

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*"I thank you very much. Your program has helped me to get rid of my ball and chain."*

*"I quit using chewing tobacco 3 months ago. Your book was very helpful outlining what steps to take to prepare and what to expect."*

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**Enough Snuff** is a self help cessation program for users of snuff or chewing tobacco that has been evaluated in clinical trials and found to be very effective. The guide provides a step by step quitting program that offers choices on ways to quit. The guide helps the user assess their dependence, motivation, reasons for quitting, preferred quit method, and ways to cope with withdrawal. The program is appropriate for high school students and adult users. This revised edition contains new information and improvements in design based on user feedback.

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