

CZH/4/1121 - The impact of tobacco control policies on perinatal and child health: a systematic review

Evidence suggests that tobacco control policies hold considerable potential to decrease the disease burden associated with second-hand smoke exposure among children. A comprehensive assessment of the impact of the range of tobacco control policies advocated by the World Health Organization on child health is however lacking. We will bring together all evidence on this topic via a systematic review and will produce aggregate effect estimates of the different policies on selected child health outcomes via meta-analysis where possible. We will explore whether the health impact varies according to socioeconomic background, as well as whether 'dose-response' associations exist between the policies' degree/comprehensiveness and the health outcomes. This comprehensive review will generate transferrable lessons for Scotland and the world which will help better protect young people from the harmful effects of tobacco smoke exposure. We will formulate appropriate policy recommendations, identify remaining knowledge gaps, and accordingly identify future research priorities.