



**International Pharmaceutical Federation
Federation internationale pharmaceutique**

PRESS RELEASE
8 September 2004

**FIP CALLS FOR BAN ON
TOBACCO SALES AND SMOKING IN PHARMACIES**

New Orleans, United States, 8 September 2004 - The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP), representing pharmacists worldwide, is recommending the pharmaceutical organizations diligently pursue policies that tobacco products are not sold in pharmacies, and that licensing bodies should not license pharmacies that are located in premises in which such products are sold. FIP is also recommending that smoking not be permitted in pharmacies.

"FIP and pharmacists worldwide are committed to taking relevant action to eliminate tobacco use in the communities they serve", explained Jean Parrot, president of FIP. "

Pharmacists are healthcare providers involved in treating and preventing illness and promoting health, and are therefore central to achieving the tobacco cessation goals. Individual pharmacists should provide an example and leadership by being free of tobacco themselves."

Recognizing their role as medication experts, pharmacists are active in patient counselling, medication therapy monitoring, and identifying and solving medicine-related problems. They have a responsibility to encourage and help people to give up smoking or other uses of tobacco.

Most adults spend at least one-third of their time at work. Tobacco use is a major health threat in the workplace. Adopting a workplace smoking policy deals with the issue of smoking in a professional and effective way. The main purpose is to ensure that all staff and customers can enjoy a smoke-free working environment.

FIP supports legislation eliminating the sale of cigarettes from all licensed health care facilities. The elimination of tobacco products from pharmacies is an achievable tobacco control strategy that will benefit the public health.

Pharmacists fully support the Tobacco Free Initiative of the World Health Organization and the implementation of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control.

Note to the Editor:

FIP is the global federation of national organisations of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists dedicated to improving the access to and value of appropriate medicine use worldwide, and contributing to changes in science, practice and health policies worldwide.

Further information can be obtained from:

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