

Title: Impact of Smoking and Alcohol on Cancer Pain Management

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Introduction: Active smoking and lower alcohol consumption are associated with higher pain expression within cancer patients (Dev et al., 2018; Calvert et al., 2022). We examined the effects of smoking and alcohol use together on pain expression and control in cancer patients.

Methods: Data from 15,032 patients (M age ~ 68) with cancer from the 2022 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) were used. About 55.8% were female, 85.6% were urban residents, and 88.8% were white, non-Hispanic.

Results: A two-step hierarchical binary logistic regression was conducted. At Step One, marijuana, smoking status, and alcohol were entered. Age and rurality were added at Step Two. The overall model was significant, $\chi^2(5) = 292.90$, $p < .001$. Smokers were 1.2 times more likely to report pain expression.

Conclusion: Replicating other work, smoking and alcohol use exert opposite effects on cancer pain expression and control. However, due to the limitations of the BRFSS questionnaire, this study did not include an assessment of the magnitude of effects caused by smoking and alcohol use on cancer pain.