

# Smoking and common mental disorders: A population-based survey in Santiago, Chile

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**Background:** Smoking and common mental disorders (CMD), anxiety and depression, tend to co-exist and are important public health challenges for countries at all levels of development. We aimed to study the association between smoking and common mental disorders after adjusting for alcohol, illicit drug use and other confounders. **Methods:** Cross-sectional household survey. CMD were assessed with a detailed psychiatric interview and smoking, alcohol, and illicit drug use with self-reported questionnaires. **Results:** About 3,870 randomly selected adults were interviewed of whom 12.9% (95% CI 12-15) met criteria for ICD-10 CMD diagnoses. 38% (36-40) of the respondents were current smokers and 11% (10-13) ex-smokers. There was a robust association between heavier smoking and the presence and severity of CMD. However there were no major differences between non-smokers, ex-smokers and light smokers. In the fully adjusted models those individuals with ICD-10 CMD were significantly more likely to b