

Effect of Passive Smoking on Children

Passive smoking is one of the most dangerous aspects on the health of population especially children.

Approximately 17,000 pre-school children are admitted to hospital each year diagnosed as Bronchitis Pneumonia, Coughing; and Wheezing; end with Asthma as a result of passive smoking (ASH, 1999).

The risk of children developing middle ear infections is estimated to be 20-40 % higher in smoking than in non-smoking households (World Health Organization, 1999).

Infants are five times more likely to die from sudden infant death syndrome and are at increased risk of meningococcal disease (Kriz et al, 2000).

Asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are the most significant respiratory diseases with nearly 6,000 patients recorded as having active asthma.

Lloyd, K. Protecting children from exposure to environmental tobacco smoke. *Nursing Times Magazine*: vol 100, issue 23, P 36, 08 Jun 2004