# Tobacco Use & Sleep what's the link?

**CAMH Nicotine Dependence Services Fact Sheets** 

# How are tobacco use and sleep connected?

Individuals that smoke are more likely have troubles sleeping.

### **Smoking**

Sleep apnea Trouble falling asleep Nightly withdrawal

### **Sleep Disturbance**

Daytime sleepiness Low mood Non-restorative sleep Trouble waking up

Sleep apnea, insufficient sleep, and other sleep-related problems are linked to:

- Heart disease Weight gain Type 2 diabetes

- Cancer
- Obesity
  Depression

When you first stop smoking, you may experience withdrawal symptoms that may make it difficult to sleep. To improve your sleep, you can use the strategies below.

# How can I get better sleep?

(1) Avoid food, drink, and activities that may interfere with sleep







- (2) Balance fluid intake to avoid waking up thirsty or to use the washroom
- (3) Keep bedroom quiet, cool, and dark
- (4) Establish a calming bedtime routine







- (5) Go to sleep when tired
- 6 Don't watch the clock
- 7 Take advantage of natural light to set internal clock
- (8) Keep sleep schedule consistent
- 9 Exercise several hours before bed

# How can I quit using tobacco?

When you are ready, here are a few ways to get started:



Talk to a health professional.



Join a support group.



Eat well.



Stay active.

## Resources

- Smoker's Helpline (1 877 513-5333)
- Canadian Mental Health Association (heretohelp.bc.ca)
- <u>Tobacco Atlas</u> (tobaccoatlas.org)
- <u>Division of Sleep Medicine at Harvard Medical School</u> (healthysleep.med.harvard.edu)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov/sleep)



