



Doctors can help smokers to quit

Recently, much attention has been given to potential loopholes in the upcoming smoke-free law. But as the July 5 implementation approaches, I hope public attention will focus more on complying with the law and working toward improving the overall health of Wisconsinites.

Our organization represents 3,500 physicians throughout Milwaukee County and realizes the new law will cause many to ponder quitting smoking in the months ahead. That personal commitment is honorable. However, smokers should know they're not alone. Doctors can be an important partner in improving wellness. Quitting smoking is not easy and no stop-smoking gimmick can change that. But there are legitimate health aids and habit-breaking techniques that help.

Physicians can also offer a variety of free resources, provide health evaluations, and create quit plans. Our organization is also providing doctors with materials to aid in this support.

I hope smokers will allow this new law to become a motivator and find help through their doctors or other credible resources. They'll increase their chances of quitting smoking for good, improve their health and the health of those around them.

George L. Morris

President

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