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| **The SAVE (Smoking and Vaping in Educational settings) project: A descriptive study of university student and staff knowledge, attitudes, and practices towards smoking, vaping, and smoke-free campus policies** |
| **Background/Objectives**Australia has been committed to tobacco control for decades. The amendment of *the Tobacco and Other Smoking Products Act 1998,* 2016 allowed the extension of smoke-free policies in Queensland to university settings. Research highlights that smoke-free campus policies can be effective in reducing exposure to environmental tobacco smoke and cigarette butt litter. The University of Queensland (UQ) transitioned to a smoke-free university on 1 July 2018, and a pre-implementation study was conducted to provide baseline data on staff and student smoking and vaping prevalence, as well as knowledge and attitudes towards smoke-free policies. **Methods**An online cross-sectional survey was conducted during semester 2, 2017 to assess staff and student smoking and vaping behaviour and knowledge and attitudes towards a smoke-free policy at UQ. **Results**A total of 5172 students and 677 staff members were included in the analysis, with 5638 (96.4%) disclosing smoking status. The prevalence of current smokers was 9.7% for students and 9.9% for staff. A few smokers reported occasionally smoking in outdoor (students 14%, staff 7%) and indoor (students 2%, staff 0%) areas where smoking is banned. Knowledge regarding current smoke-free policies at UQ was not significantly different between students and staff. Generally, students and staff supported smoke-free policies in all UQ indoor worksites; however, smokers were less likely to support the extension of UQ smoke-free policies to all outdoor areas. The majority of all respondents (students 71%, staff 72%) agreed that the campus should be completely smoke-free, however around 50% of non-smokers (students 55%, staff 53%) agreed that smokers should have somewhere to smoke on campus. Over 20% of students and 11% of staff had ever tried an e-cigarette, with about 4% being daily users (staff 14%, students 3%). Over half of the respondents (53%) perceived e-cigarettes to be less harmful than regular cigarettes and 16% perceiving e-cigarettes as more harmful, but 26% did not know which was more harmful. **Discussion**Students and staff showed positive attitudes to UQ becoming smoke-free, but smokers were less likely to support a completely smoke-free policy. Findings highlighted the importance of a lengthy and visible promotion of the policy implementation at UQ. Promotion included banners, emails, and a website detailing the policy and smoking cessation supports available. A post-policy implementation survey will be conducted in semester 2, 2019. **Keywords** Tobacco control, smoke-free university policy |