

# Tobacco Use and Cessation Behavior Among Adolescents Participating in Organized Sports

Brian C. Castrucci, BA; Karen K. Gerlach, PhD, MPH  
Nancy J. Kaufman, RN, MS; C. Tracy Orleans, PhD

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**Objectives:** To examine the difference in tobacco use between adolescents who participate in organized sports and those who do not. **Methods:** Using a cross-sectional study design, this study uses data from a nationally representative sample of adolescents enrolled in public high schools in the United States. **Results:** Those participating in organized sports were 25% less likely to be current cigarette smokers. How-

ever, smokeless tobacco use was found to be associated with participation in organized sports. **Conclusions:** Given the large proportion of students involved in organized sports, intervening through this venue to address tobacco use has the potential to reach significant numbers of adolescents.

**Key words:** tobacco, adolescents, physical activity

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