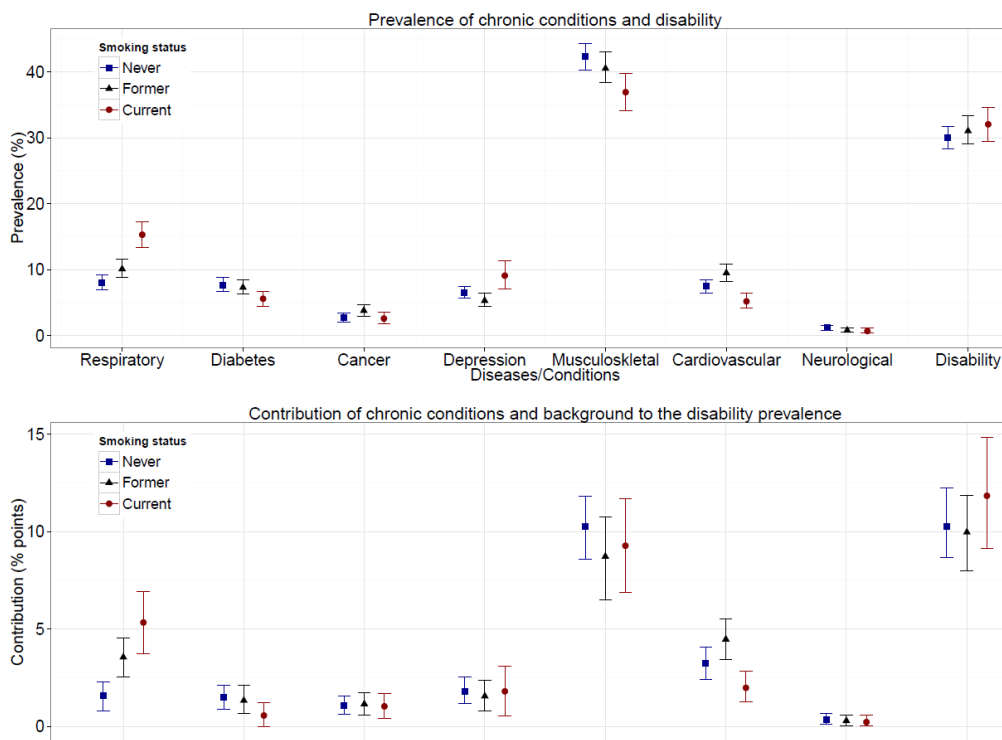


The impact of smoking on the contribution of chronic diseases to the disability burden in the population 50-80 years, Belgium, 2001-2008

Prevalence of chronic conditions and disability and contribution¹ of each cause to the disability burden across smoking categories. Health Interview Survey, Belgium, 2001, 2004, 2008.



¹Estimated using the Attribution method proposed by Nusselder and Looman (2004)(1) ; Contributions expressed as disability prevalence.

²Background corresponds to the disability causes that were not included in the analysis

Key points:

The prevalence of chronic respiratory diseases is larger in current smokers (15%) compared to former (10%) and never (8%) smokers in individuals aged 50-80 years in Belgium.

The prevalence of depression in current smokers (9%) is larger than in former (5%) and never smokers (7%) in individuals aged 50-80 years in Belgium.

The prevalence of cardiovascular diseases is lower in current smokers (5%) compared to former smokers (10%) in individuals aged 50-80 years in Belgium.

The disability prevalence tends to increase across smoking categories (current: 32% > former: 31% > never: 30%), but this difference is not statistically significant for individuals aged 50-80 years in Belgium.

Higher contribution of chronic respiratory diseases to the disability burden in current (3rd in the rank; Contribution = 5%) and former smokers (4th in the rank; Contribution = 4%) compared to never smokers (5th in the rank; Contribution = 2%).

Higher contribution of cardiovascular diseases to the disability burden in former smokers (4%) compared to current smokers (2%).

(1) Nusselder WJ, Looman CWN. Decomposition of differences in health expectancy by cause. Demography 2004;41(2):315-34.

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