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| **About the Measure** | |
| **Protocol Id** | 730801 |
| **Domain:** | Tobacco Regulatory Research: Agent |
| **Measure:** | Tobacco Product Adulteration - Vent or Filter Blocking |
| **Definition:** | Questionnaire used to evaluate a respondent’s awareness and knowledge of cigarette filter ventilation and the consequences of blocking of vents. |
| **Purpose:** | The purpose of this measure is to assist investigators in getting a better understanding of a respondent’s vent blocking and his or her perceptions of the effects of filter vent blocking on tobacco exposure. |
| **Essential PhenX Protocols:** |  |
| **Related PhenX Protocols:** |  |
| **Measure Release Date:** | June 24, 2015 |

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| **About the Protocol** | |
| **Protocol Release Date:** | June 24, 2015 |
| **Protocol Review Date:** | June 24, 2015 |
| **PhenX Protocol Name:** | Tobacco Product Adulteration - Vent or Filter Blocking |
| **Protocol Name From Source:** | Kozlowski, L.T., et al, Smokers are unaware of the filter vents now on most cigarettes: results of a national survey. TOB CONTROL, 1996 |
| **Protocol Availability:** | Available |
| **Keywords:** | filter blocking; vent blocking; filter holes; adulteration; tobacco; cigarette; ventilation; filter vent; Tobacco Regulatory Research; TRR; Kozlowski; agent; filter; blocking; vent; compensation |
| **Description:** | The Kozlowski et al. interviewer-administered protocol consists of eight fixed-response questions and one open-ended question asking respondents whether they currently or have ever used filter or vent blocked cigarettes and their perceptions of the effects of doing so. |
| **Specific Instructions:** | If the respondent answers "yes" to question 1, the interviewer will proceed to questions 2-8. |
| **Protocol:** | ***Questions about cigarette filter ventilation.***  1. Have you ever seen or heard that one or more rings of small holes are on the filters of some cigarettes?  1 [ ] yes  2 [ ] no  [ ] don’t know  2. How do you know about these holes?  [ ] Saw them  [ ] Read about them in the news or magazine  [ ] Someone told me  [ ] Saw a television advertisement about them  [ ] Saw or heard a news report about them  [ ] Other  [ ] Don’t Know  [ ] Refused  3. Did you ever try to block the filter holes on cigarettes?  1 [ ] yes  2 [ ] no  [ ] don’t know  4. How did you block the filter holes?  5. At the present time do you block holes when you smoke?  1 [ ] yes  2 [ ] no  [ ] don’t know  6. Do you think that blocking filter holes would make a cigarette taste stronger, milder, or have no effect?  [ ] a lot stronger  [ ] moderately stronger  [ ] a little stronger  [ ] no effect  [ ] a little milder  [ ] moderately milder  [ ] a lot milder  [ ] don’t know  7. Do you think that blocking filter holes would increase, decrease, or have no effect on the tar a smoker gets from these cigarettes?  [ ] greatly increase  [ ] moderately increase  [ ] slightly increase  [ ] no effect  [ ] slightly decrease  [ ] moderately decrease  [ ] greatly decrease  [ ] don’t know  8. Do you think that blocking filter holes would increase, decrease, or have no effect on the nicotine a smoker gets form these cigarettes?  [ ] greatly increase  [ ] moderately increase  [ ] slight increase  [ ] no effect  [ ] slightly decrease  [ ] moderately decrease  [ ] greatly decrease  [ ] don’t know  Analyses:  Responses to the last three questions were recoded in the following manner: those who responded "no effect," "a little milder," "moderately milder," "a lot milder," or "don’t know" to the question regarding the effect of blocking on cigarette taste, for example, were classified as being "unaware." Similarly, those participants who responded "no effect," "slightly decrease," "moderately decrease," "greatly decrease," or "don’t know" to the questions regarding the effect of blocking on tar and nicotine yields were also classified as being "unaware."  Response percentages were calculated within each brand category, with 95% confidence intervals (CIs). Between-group tests were done using analyses of variance with Bonferroni adjustments for comparisons or with X2 analyses.30 Within-group comparisons were done with paired *t* tests. Multiple regression analyses (ordinary least squares, linear probability model) were used to explore predictors of knowledge of vents (scored 1 = yes, 2 = no, don’t know) and knowledge that blocking increased tar intake (scored 1 = increase tar, 2 = no effect, decrease tar, don’t know). Brand category was included in the regression analyses to adjust for group membership effects. All probability values are for two-sided tests.  30 Snedecor, G. W., & Cochran, W. G. (1980). *Statistical methods* (7th ed.). Ames, IA: Iowa State University Press. |
| **Selection Rationale:** | The Kozlowski et al. questionnaire has been used to collect data from a substantial sample of smokers in the United States, while other surveys only addressed small, convenience samples. This protocol has been approved by the Research Compliance Office of Pennsylvania State University. |
| **Source:** | Kozlowski, L. T., Goldberg, M. E., Yost, B. A., Ahern, F. M., Aronson, K. R., & Sweeney, C. T. (1996). Smokers are unaware of the filter vents now on most cigarettes: results of a national survey. *Tobacco Control*, *5,* 265-270. |
| **Language** | English |
| **Participant:** | Adult (18+) |
| **Personnel and Training Required:** | The interviewer must be trained and found competent (i.e., tested by an expert) to conduct personal interviews with individuals from the general population. The interviewer should be trained to prompt respondents further if a "don’t know" response is provided. |
| **Equipment Needs:** | None. |
| **Standards** |  |
| **General References:** | None. |
| **Mode of Administration:** | Interviewer-administered questionnaire |
| **Derived Variables:** | None. |
| **Requirements:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Requirement Category** | **Required (Yes/No)** | | **Major equipment** | No | | **Specialized training** | No | | **Specialized requirements for biospecimen collection** | No | | **Average time of greater than 15 minutes in an unaffected individual** | No | |
| **Annotations for Specific Conditions:** | None |
| **Process and Review:** | Not applicable. |