

by a direct effect on pancreatic secretory mechanisms, acting as a competitive inhibitor of secretin, and by a secondary effect on the duodenal mucosa, depressing the endogenous release of secretin by acid.

Robert (12) studied the potentiation of active duodenal ulcers by nicotine administration in the rat. Subcutaneous infusion of pentagastrin and carbachol resulted in the dose-dependent formation of duodenal ulcers within 24 hours. Nicotine alone produced no ulcers. Increasing doses of subcutaneously infused nicotine, in combination with the other two agents, resulted in a steadily increasing dose-related incidence and severity of the duodenal ulcers. Robert noted that Konturek, et al. (9) found that nicotine inhibited pancreatic and biliary bicarbonate secretion in dogs, and that Thompson, et al. (16) found that acute doses of nicotine in rats either depressed or did not alter gastric secretion. He concluded that the most probable mechanism by which nicotine potentiated acute duodenal ulcer formation in the rat was via a suppression of pancreatic secretion.

Robert, et al. (13) further tested this hypothesis by infusing acid via the esophagus of rats in doses found to cause duodenal ulcers in one-third of the experimental animals. One group of rats also received a subcutaneous infusion of nicotine. Another received nicotine, but only water was infused via the esophagus; 31 percent of the animals receiving acid but no nicotine had duodenal ulcers; 93 percent of the nicotine-acid group had duodenal ulcers, while none of the nicotine-water group had ulcers. The ulcers in the nicotine-acid group were more numerous, extensive, and deeper than those in the animals which received acid alone.

#### Summary of Recent Peptic Ulcer Disease Findings

In addition to the findings relating cigarette smoking to peptic ulcer disease, summarized in previous reports on the health consequences of smoking (17, 18) and cited in the introduction to this chapter, recent studies have contributed further to our understanding of the association:

1. The finding of a significant dose-related excess mortality from gastric ulcers among both male and female Japanese cigarette smokers, in a large prospective study, and in the context of the genetic and cultural differences between the Japanese and previously investigated Western populations, confirms and extends the association between cigarette smoking and gastric ulcer mortality.

2. Data from experiments in several different animal species suggest that nicotine potentiates acute duodenal ulcer formation by means of inhibition of pancreatic bicarbonate output.
3. Cigarette smoking has been demonstrated to inhibit pancreatic bicarbonate secretion in healthy young men and women.

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## Chapter 7

### Involuntary Smoking

Source: 1975 Report, Chapter 4, pages 83 - 112.

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## INTRODUCTION

The effects of smoking on the smoker have been extensively studied, but the effects of tobacco smoke on nonsmokers have received much less attention. The 1972 Health Consequences of Smoking (49) reviewed the effects of public exposure to the air pollution resulting from tobacco smoke. This exposure has been called "passive smoking" by many authors, but will be referred to in this report as "Involuntary Smoking." The term involuntary smoking will be used to mean the inhalation of tobacco combustion products from smoke-filled atmospheres by the nonsmoker. This type of exposure is, in a sense, "smoking" because it provides exposure to many of the same constituents of tobacco smoke that voluntary smokers experience. It is also "involuntary" because the exposure occurs as an unavoidable consequence of breathing in a smoke-filled environment.

The chemical constituents found in an atmosphere filled with tobacco smoke are derived from two sources — mainstream and sidestream smoke. Mainstream smoke emerges from the tobacco product after being drawn through the tobacco during puffing. Sidestream smoke rises from the burning cone of tobacco. Mainstream and sidestream smoke contribute different concentrations of many substances to the atmosphere for several reasons: Different amounts of tobacco are consumed in the production of mainstream and sidestream smoke; the temperature of combustion differs for tobacco during puffing or while smouldering; and certain substances are partially absorbed from the mainstream smoke by the smoker. The amount of a substance absorbed by the smoker depends on the characteristics of the substance and the depth of inhalation by the smoker. As discussed in the 1972 Report, when the smoker does not inhale the smoke into his lungs, the smoke he exhales contains less than half its original amount of water-soluble volatile compounds, four-fifths of the original nonwater-soluble compounds and particulate matter, and almost all of the carbon monoxide (15). When the smoker inhales the mainstream smoke, he exhales into the atmosphere less than one-seventh of the amount of volatile and particulate substances that were originally present in the smoke and also reduces the exhaled CO to less than half its original concentration (16). As a result, different concentrations of substances are found in exhaled mainstream smoke depending on the tobacco product, composition of the tobacco, and degree of inhalation by the smoker.

Several minor symptoms (conjunctival irritation, dry throat, etc.) are caused by levels of cigarette smoke encountered in everyday life, and serious allergic-like reactions to cigarette smoke may occur in some sensitive individuals. A major concern, however, about atmospheric contamination by cigarette smoke has been due to the production of significant levels of carbon monoxide. Cigarette smoking in poorly ventilated enclosed spaces may generate carbon monoxide levels above the acceptable 8-hour industrial exposure limits (50 ppm) – set by the American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists (1). Exposure to this level of carbon monoxide even for short periods of time has been shown to reduce significantly the exercise tolerance of some persons with symptomatic cardiovascular disease. There is also some evidence that prolonged exposure to this level of carbon monoxide in combination with a high cholesterol diet can enhance experimental atherosclerosis in animals (Chapter 1, Cardiovascular Diseases).

In the present chapter, the effects of cigarette smoke on the environment and on the nonsmoker in that environment will be examined by reviewing data on (1) the constituents of cigarette smoke measured under various conditions, and (2) the physiologic effects of this “involuntary smoking” on individuals.

### CONSTITUENTS OF TOBACCO SMOKE

In a recent workshop on the effects of environmental tobacco smoke on the nonsmoker (41), Corn (14) presented a compilation adapted from Hoegg (32) of some of the substances in mainstream cigarette smoke and the ratio of sidestream to mainstream levels for some of these substances (Table 1). The actual numerical value of the sidestream to mainstream concentration ratio will vary with different types of tobacco tested, but Table 1 gives values generally consistent with those found by others (34, 42). Many of these substances including nicotine and carbon monoxide are found in much higher concentrations in sidestream smoke than in mainstream smoke, establishing that the smoke exposure received by both the smoker and nonsmoker due to breathing in a smoke-filled environment differs qualitatively as well as quantitatively from the smoke exposure received by the smoker who inhales through a lighted cigarette. A more comprehensive recent review of the constituents of mainstream and sidestream smoke has also been provided by Schmeltz, et al. (42) and Johnson, et al. (34).



TABLE I. - Comparison of mainstream and sidestream cigarette smoke<sup>1,2</sup>

Compound	Mainstream (mg/cig)	Sidestream (mg/cig)	Ratio Sidestream/ Mainstream	Comment
A	General characteristics			
Duration of smoke production	20 sec	550 sec	27	
Tobacco burnt	347	411	1.2	
Particulates, no. per cigarette	$1.05 \times 10^{12}$	$3.5 \times 10^{12}$	3.3	
B	Particulate phase			
<sup>2</sup> Tar (chloroform extract)	20.8	44.1	2.1	
	10.2	34.5	3.4	Filter cigarette
Nicotine	0.92	1.69	1.8	
	0.46	1.27	2.8	Filter cigarette
Benzo(a)pyrene	$3.5 \times 10^{-5}$	$13.5 \times 10^{-5}$	3.7	
Pyrene	$13 \times 10^{-5}$	$39 \times 10^{-5}$	3.0	
Total phenols	0.228	0.603	2.6	
Cadmium	$12.5 \times 10^{-5}$	$45 \times 10^{-5}$	3.6	
C	Gases and vapors			
Water	7.5	298	39.7	3.5 mg of Mainstream and 5.5 mg of Sidestream in particulate phase, rest in vapor phase
Ammonia	0.16	7.4	46	
Carbon monoxide	31.4	148	4.7	
Carbon dioxide	63.5	79.5	1.3	
Oxides of Nitrogen	0.014	0.051	3.6	

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from Hoegg, U.R. (31, 32).

<sup>2</sup> For 35 ml puff volume, 2 sec puff duration, one puff per minute and 23 or 30 mm butt length and 10 percent tobacco moisture.  
Source: Corn, M. (14).

A number of other researchers have attempted to measure the levels of some of the substances in cigarette smoke encountered in everyday situations (Table 2). They have also tried to determine the factors controlling the atmospheric concentrations of these substances as well as the amount absorbed by nonsmokers under these conditions. Carbon monoxide, nicotine, benzo(a)pyrene, acrolein, and acetaldehyde have been of particular concern.

### *Carbon Monoxide*

Levels of carbon monoxide (CO), a major product of tobacco combustion, have been studied in a variety of situations, and concentrations ranging from 2 to 110 ppm have been measured (Table 2). The major determinants of the CO levels in these situations are size of the space in which the smoking occurs (dilution of CO), the number and type of tobacco products smoked (CO production), and the amount and effectiveness of ventilation (CO removal).

The type of tobacco product smoked is important as a determinant of CO exposure because it has been found that mainstream smoke from regular and small cigars contains more CO per puff and per gram of tobacco burned than filtered or unfiltered cigarettes (8). This greater production of CO by cigars was confirmed by Harke (23). He measured the CO produced by 42 cigarettes, 9 cigars, and 9 pipefuls of tobacco, each product evaluated separately but under the same room conditions. The cigars produced the highest CO level (60 ppm).

In addition to the effect of type of tobacco product on CO levels, data on the effects of room size, amount of tobacco burned, and ventilation are included in Table 2. Only under conditions of unusually heavy smoking and poor ventilation did CO levels exceed the maximum permissible, 8-hour industrial exposure limit of 50 ppm CO (1); however, even in cases where the ventilation was adequate, the measured CO levels did exceed the maximum acceptable ambient level of 9 ppm (18).

Harke (27) also showed that in small enclosed ventilated spaces (an automobile) the CO level is determined more by the number of cigarettes being smoked at one given time than by the cumulative number of cigarettes that have been smoked; also the CO level decreases rapidly once the smoking stops.

TABLE 2. - Measurements of constituents released by the combustion of tobacco products in various situations  
 [Cig = cigarettes; - = unknown; TPM = total particulate matter]

Reference, Location, and Dimensions If Known	Ventilation	Amount of Tobacco Burned	Constituents
Harke, H.-P., et al. (27) Mid-size European car, engine off, in wind tunnel at 50 km/hr wind speed	None	9 cig	30 ppm CO
	Air jets open & blower off	6 cig	20 ppm CO
	Air jets open & blower on	6 cig	10 ppm CO
Mid-size European car, engine off, in wind tunnel at zero km/hr wind speed	None	9 cig	110 ppm CO
	None	6 cig	80 ppm CO
	Air jets open & blower on	6 cig	8-10 ppm CO
Harke, H.-P., Peters, H. (28) Car in traffic	None	4 cig	21.4 ppm CO
Srch, M. (45) Car, engine off- 2.09 m <sup>3</sup>	None	10 cig in 1 hr	90 ppm CO, Smokers 10% CO11h Nonsmokers 5% CO11h
Seiff, H.E. (44) Intercity buses	15 air changes per hr	23 cig (burning continuously)	33 ppm CO (at driver's seat)
		3 cig (burning continuously)	18 ppm CO (at driver's seat)

TABLE 2. — Measurements of constituents released by the combustion of tobacco products in various situations — Continued

[Cig = cigarettes; — = unknown; TPM = total particulate matter]

Reference, Location, and Dimensions If Known	Ventilation	Amount of Tobacco Burned	Constituents
U.S. Dept. Transportation, et al. (48)			
Airplane flights:			
Overseas—100% filled	15-20 air changes per hr	—	2-5 ppm CO, <.120 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM
Domestic—66% filled	do.	—	<2 ppm CO, <.120 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM
Cano, J.P., et al. (11)			
Submarines—66 m <sup>3</sup>	Yes	157 cig per day 94-103 cig per day	<40 ppm CO, 32 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine <40 ppm CO, 15-35 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
Godin, G., et al. (21)			
Ferry boat compartments:			
Smoking	—	—	18.4 ± 8.7 ppm CO
Nonsmoking	—	—	3.0 ± 2.4 ppm CO
Theater:			
Foyer	—	—	3.4 ± 0.8 ppm CO
Auditorium	—	—	1.4 ± 0.8 ppm CO
Bridge, D.P., Corn, M. (7)			
Party rooms:			
145 m <sup>3</sup>	7 air changes per hr	50 cig & 17 cigars in 1.5 hr	7 ppm CO
101 m <sup>3</sup>	10.6 air changes per hr	63 cig & 10 cigars in 1.5 hr	9 ppm CO

TABLE 2. – *Measurements of constituents released by the combustion of tobacco products in various situations – Continued*  
 [Cig = cigarettes; – = unknown; TPM = total particulate matter]

Reference, Location, and Dimensions If Known	Ventilation	Amount of Tobacco Burned	Constituents
Harke, H.-P., et al. (25) Room – 38.2 m <sup>3</sup>	None	30 cig per 13 min (by machine)	64 ppm CO, 510 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine .46 mg/m <sup>3</sup> Acrolein 6.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> Acetaldehyde
		5 cig per 13 min (by machine)	11.5 ppm CO, 60 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine, .07 mg/m <sup>3</sup> Acrolein, 1.3 mg/m <sup>3</sup> Acetaldehyde
Harke, H.-P. (24) Office Bldg Office Bldg Room – 78.3 m <sup>3</sup>	Air conditioned	–	<5 ppm CO
	Not air conditioned	–	<5 ppm CO
	–	3 smokers	15.6 ppm CO
Harke, H.-P., (23) Room – 57 m <sup>3</sup>	None	42 cig (by machine)	50 ppm CO, 530 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
		7.2 air changes per hr	10 ppm CO, 120 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
		8.4 air changes per hr	<10 ppm CO, <100 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
	None	9 cigars do.	60 ppm CO, 1040 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
		7.2 air changes per hr	9 cigars do.
	None	9 pipes do.	10 ppm CO, 520 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
7.2 air changes per hr		9 pipes do.	<10 ppm CO, <100 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine

TABLE 2. — *Measurements of constituents released by the combustion of tobacco products in various situations — Continued*  
 [Cig = cigarettes; — = unknown; TPM = total particulate matter]

Reference, Location, and Dimensions If Known	Ventilation	Amount of Tobacco Burned	Constituents
Harke, H.-P. (23) Room — 170 m <sup>3</sup>	None	105 cig	30 ppm CO, Smokers 7.5% COHb Nonsmokers 2.1% COHb
	1.2 air changes per hr	107 cig	5 ppm CO, Smokers 5.8% COHb Nonsmokers 1.3% COHb
	2.3 air changes per hr	101 cig	75 ppm CO, Smokers 5.0% COHb Nonsmokers 1.6% COHb
Anderson, G., Dalhamn, T. (3) Room — 80 m <sup>3</sup>	6.4 air changes per hr	46 cig & 3 pipefuls	4.5 ppm CO, 377 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine, 3.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM
Russell, M.A.H., et al. (40) Room — 43 m <sup>3</sup>	None	80 cig & 2 cigars per hr	38 ppm CO, Smokers 9.6% COHb Nonsmokers 2.6% COHb
Hansen, H., Effenberger, E. (30) Room — 93 m <sup>3</sup>	None	62 cig in 2 hrs	80 ppm CO, 5200 µg/m <sup>3</sup> Nicotine
Hoegg, U.R. (31, 32) Sealed test chamber — 25 m <sup>3</sup>	None	4 cig	12.2 ppm CO, 2.28 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM
		8 cig	25.6 ppm CO, 5.39 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM
		16 cig	47.0 ppm CO, 11.41 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM
		24 cig	69.8 ppm CO, 16.65 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TPM

One must be careful when using the levels recorded in Table 2 as measures of individual exposure because the CO levels were usually measured at points several feet from the nearest smoker and probably would have been higher if measured at points corresponding to the position of a person sitting next to someone actively smoking (17, 35). In addition, it is the CO absorbed by the body that causes the harmful effects and not that which is measured in the atmosphere. This absorption can vary from individual to individual, depending on factors such as duration of exposure, volume of air breathed per minute, and cardio-respiratory function.

Several investigators have tried to determine the amount of carbon monoxide absorbed in involuntary smoking situations by measuring changes in carboxyhemoglobin levels in nonsmokers exposed to cigarette smoke-filled environments. Anderson and Dalhamn (3) were unable to find any change in the COHb levels of nonsmokers in a well ventilated room where the CO level was 4.5 ppm. When Harke (23) studied nonsmokers under similar conditions (good ventilation and less than 5 ppm CO), he was able to show an increase in COHb level from 1.1 to 1.6 percent: without ventilation the CO levels rose to 30 ppm and the COHb level increased from .9 to 2.1 percent in 2 hours. Russell, et al. (40) also found that COHb levels increased from 1.6 to 2.6 percent in nonsmokers exposed to a smoke-filled room where the CO level was measured at 38 ppm: however, he cautioned that nearly all persons in the room felt that the conditions were worse than those experienced in most social situations.

Stewart, et al. (46) measured COHb levels in a group of nonsmoking blood donors from several cities and found that 45 percent exceeded the Clean Air Act's Quality Standard of 1.5 percent with the 90 percent range as high as 3.7 percent for individual cities (Table 3). These levels represent the total CO exposure from all sources, involuntary smoking, and other sources of pollution as well as establishing the levels which would be added to any new involuntary smoking exposure.

Increases in the COHb levels of this magnitude are probably functionally insignificant in the healthy adult, but in persons with angina pectoris, any reduction of oxygen-carrying capacity is of great importance. In this disease, the volume of blood able to be pumped through the diseased coronary artery is already unable to meet the demands of the heart muscle under exercise stress. Aronow, et al. (4) examined the effect of exposure to carbon monoxide on persons with angina pectoris. They exercised persons with angina

TABLE 3. — Median percent carboxyhemoglobin (COHb) saturation and 90 percent range for nonsmokers by location

Location	Nonsmokers		No. of Nonsmokers	Percent of Nonsmokers With COHb > 1.5%
	Median	Range		
Anchorage	1.5	0.6 – 3.2	152	56
Chicago	1.7	1.0 – 3.2	401	74
Denver	2.0	0.9 – 3.7	744	76
Detroit	1.6	0.7 – 2.7	1,172	42
Honolulu	1.4	0.7 – 2.5	503	39
Houston	1.2	0.6 – 3.5	240	30
Los Angeles	1.8	1.0 – 3.0	2,886	76
Miami	1.2	0.4 – 3.0	398	33
Milwaukee	1.2	0.5 – 2.5	2,720	26
New Orleans	1.6	1.0 – 3.0	159	59
New York	1.2	0.6 – 2.5	2,291	35
Phoenix	1.2	0.5 – 2.5	147	24
St. Louis	1.4	0.9 – 2.1	671	35
Salt Lake City	1.2	0.6 – 2.5	544	27
San Francisco	1.5	0.8 – 2.7	660	61
Seattle	1.5	0.8 – 2.7	535	55
Vermont, New Hampshire	1.2	0.8 – 2.1	959	18
Washington, D.C.	1.2	0.6 – 2.5	850	35

Source: Stewart, R.D., et al. (46).



pectoris before and after exposure to carbon monoxide. The average amount of exercise that was able to be performed before a person developed chest pain was significantly shortened from 226.7 seconds before exposure to 187.6 seconds after CO exposure. This change occurred after a 2-hour exposure to 50 ppm CO and with an increase in COHb level from 1.03 percent to 2.68 percent; these COHb levels are within the range produced by involuntary smoking.

These data indicate that exposure to CO at levels found in some involuntary smoking situations may well have a significant impact on the functional capacity of persons with angina pectoris. Carbon monoxide has also been shown to decrease cardiac contractility in persons with coronary heart disease at COHb levels similar to those produced due to involuntary smoking situations (5). It is reasonable to assume that any significant CO exposure to the diseased heart reduces its functional reserve.

#### *Nicotine*

Nicotine in the atmosphere differs from CO in that it tends to settle out of the air with or without ventilation (thereby decreasing its atmospheric concentration), whereas the CO level will remain constant until the CO is removed. The concentrations of both substances are decreased substantially by ventilation. As can be seen from data in Table 2, under conditions of adequate ventilation neither exceeds the maximum threshold limit values for industrial exposure (nicotine, 500  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; CO, 50 ppm, 1); whereas in conditions without ventilation, smoking produces very high concentrations of both (nicotine, up to 1,040  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ; CO, 110 ppm).

Nicotine in the environment is of concern because nicotine absorbed by cigarette smokers is felt to be one factor contributing to the development of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease. Several researchers have attempted to measure the amount of nicotine absorbed by nonsmokers in involuntary smoking situations. Cano, et al. (11) studied urinary excretion of nicotine by persons on a submarine. Despite very low levels measured in the air (15 to 32  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ), nonsmokers did show a small rise in nicotine excretion; however, the amount excreted was still less than 1 percent of the amount excreted by smokers. Harke (23) measured nicotine and its metabolite cotinine in the urine of smokers and nonsmokers exposed to a smoke-filled environment and reported that nonsmokers excreted less than 1 percent of the amount of nicotine and cotinine excreted by smokers. He feels that at this low level of absorption nicotine is unlikely to be a hazard to the nonsmoker.

### *Other Substances*

In two studies environmental levels of the experimental carcinogen benzo(a)pyrene were measured. Galuskinova (20) found levels of benzo(a)pyrene from 2.82 to 14.4 mg/m<sup>3</sup> in smoky restaurants, but it is not clear how much of this was due to cooking and how much was due to smoking. In a study of the concentration of benzo(a)pyrene in the atmosphere of airplanes (48), only a fraction of a microgram per cubic meter was detected. The effect of chronic exposure to very low levels of this carcinogen has not been established for humans.

Acrolein and acetaldehyde have also been measured in smoke-filled rooms (25, Table 2) and may contribute to the eye irritation commonly experienced in these situations.

## EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE TO CIGARETTE SMOKE

### *Cardiovascular Effects of Involuntary Smoking*

The effects of cigarette smoking on the cardiovascular system of the smoker are well established, but very little is known about the cardiovascular response of the nonsmoker to cigarette smoke. Harke and Bleichert (26) studied 18 adults (11 smokers and 7 nonsmokers) in a room 170 m<sup>3</sup> large in which 150 cigarettes were smoked or allowed to burn in ashtrays for 30 minutes. They noted that the subjects who smoked during the experiment had a significant lowering of skin temperature and a rise in blood pressure. Nonsmokers who were exposed to the same smoke-contaminated environment showed no change in either of these parameters. Luquette, et al. (36) performed a similar experiment with 40 children exposed alternately to smoke-contaminated and clean atmospheres, but otherwise under identical experimental conditions. They found that exposure to the smoke caused increases in heart rate (5 beats per minute) and in systolic (4 mm Hg) and diastolic (5 mm Hg) blood pressure. The differences in results between these studies may be due, in part, to the age of the subjects – i.e., children may be more sensitive to the cardiovascular effects of involuntary smoking than adults, or the increase in heart rate and blood pressure may be due to a difference between children and adults in the psychologic response to being in a smoke-filled atmosphere.

### *Effects of Carbon Monoxide on Psychomotor Tests*

Carbon monoxide from tobacco smoke, automobile exhaust, and industrial pollution is an important component of air pollution. There has been some concern over the effect of relatively low levels of carbon monoxide on psychomotor functions (the ability to perceive and react to stimuli), especially those functions related to driving an automobile (Table 4).

Carbon monoxide levels occasionally reached in some involuntary smoking situations result in measurable cognitive and motor effects, but these effects generally are measurable only at the threshold of stimuli perception. One study (Wright, et al., (50)) found that the safe driving habits measured on a driving simulator did not improve as much with practice in a group exposed to CO as did the habits of a control group. Another study (37) with a different experimental design but at the same levels of CO did not find any effect on complex psychomotor activity such as driving a car. Thus, the role of CO alone in motor vehicle accidents remains unclear. The effect on judgement and reactions of CO in combination with factors such as fatigue and alcohol, conditions known to influence judgement and reaction time, has not been determined.

### *Pathologic Effects of Exposure to Cigarette Smoke*

The effect of involuntary smoking on an individual is determined not only by the qualitative and quantitative aspects of the smoke-filled environment, but also largely by the characteristics of the individual. Reactions may vary with age as well as with the sensitivity of an individual to the components of tobacco smoke. The severity of possible effects range from minor eye and throat irritations experienced by most people in smoke-filled rooms, to the anginal attacks of some persons with cardiovascular disease.

The minor symptomatic irritation experienced by nonsmokers in a smoke-filled environment is influenced by the humidity of the air as well as the concentration of irritating substances found in the atmosphere. Johansson and Ronge (33) have shown that irritation due to cigarette smoke is maximal in warm, dry air and decreases with a small rise in relative humidity. A change from acceptable to unpleasant was reported at  $4.7 \text{ mg/m}^3$  of particulate matter for nonsmokers and eye irritation was noted at  $9 \text{ mg/m}^3$  for both smokers and nonsmokers. The authors concluded that a ventilation rate of  $12 \text{ m}^3/\text{hr}/\text{cig}$  was necessary to avoid eye irritation and  $50 \text{ m}^3/\text{hr}/\text{cig}$  was necessary to avoid unpleasant odors.

TABLE 4.— *Effects of carbon monoxide on psychomotor functions*

Reference	Test or Measurement	CO level (ppm)	COHb level (Percent)	Effect
McFarland, R.A. (37)	Ability of drivers to stay between two-lane markers while being permitted only brief glimpses of the road		6	None
			11	None
			17	None
Ray, A.M., Rockwell, T.H. (39)	Reaction time to car taillights		10	Prolonged
McFarland, R.A. (38)	Performance of two tasks at same time	700	17	None
	Dark adaptation and glare recovery	700	17	None
	Peripheral vision at 10° and 30°	700	17	None
	Peripheral vision at 20°	700	17	Decreased
	Depth perception	700	17	None
Stewart, R.D., et al. (47)	Time perception	500	20	None

TABLE 4. - *Effects of carbon monoxide on psychomotor functions - Continued*

Reference	Test or Measurement	CO level ppm	COHb level (Percent)	Effect
Fodor, G.G., Winneke, G. (19)	Attentiveness to auditory stimuli	50 x 5 hrs.	2.5	Decreased
	Flicker fusion	50 x 5 hrs.	2.5	No change
	Speed of motor performance	50 x 5 hrs.	2.5	No change
	Perception of complex visual patterns	50 x 5 hrs.	2.5	Improved
Schulte, J.H. (43)	Cognitive function	100	5	Decreased
	Reaction time		20	No change
Bender, W., et al. (6)	Threshold for temporal resolution of visual stimuli	100	7.25	Raised
	Manual dexterity	100	7.25	Decreased
	Learning meaningless syllables	100	7.25	Decreased
	Retention of 10 syllables for 1 hr	100	7.25	No change
Groll-Knapp, E., et al. (22)	Attentiveness to auditory stimuli	50		Deterioration at 50 ppm, worse at 100 ppm, worst at 150 ppm
		100		
		150		
Wright, G., et al. (50)	Reaction time		6.3	Prolonged
	Glare recovery		6.3	Prolonged
	Careful driving habits		6.3	Failure to improve with practice

Two government sponsored studies have attempted to evaluate the degree of minor irritation due to cigarette smoke experienced by bus and plane passengers. The U.S. Department of Transportation (47) studied the environment on two ventilated buses – one with simulated unrestricted smoking and another with simulated smoking limited to the rear 20 percent of the seats. In one bus, lighted cigarettes were placed at every other seat (23 cigarettes) to simulate a bus filled with smokers. In the other bus, cigarettes were placed only in the rear 20 percent of the bus (five cigarettes) to simulate a bus where smoking was limited to the rear 20 percent of the seats. When smoking was limited, the CO level at the driver's seat was only 18 ppm (ambient air 13 ppm) compared to the level of 33 ppm (ambient air 7 ppm) measured in the unrestricted smoking situation. Four of the six subjects seated in the bus reported eye irritation during the unrestricted smoking simulation. None of the six subjects reported any eye irritation in the restricted smoking situation (not even those seated in the rear 20 percent of the bus).

Several Federal agencies (48) cooperated to survey the symptoms experienced by travelers on both military and commercial aircraft. They distributed a questionnaire to passengers on 20 military and 8 commercial flights; 57 percent of the passengers on the military flights and 45 percent of the passengers on the commercial flights were smokers. The planes were well ventilated and CO levels were always below 5 ppm with low levels of other pollutants as well. In spite of the low level of measurable pollution, over 60 percent of the nonsmoking passengers and 15 to 22 percent of the smokers reported being annoyed by the other passengers' smoking. Seventy-three percent of the nonsmoking passengers on the commercial flights and 62 percent of the nonsmoking passengers on the military flights suggested that some remedial action be taken; 84 percent of those suggesting remedial action felt that segregating the smokers from nonsmokers would be a satisfactory solution. These feelings were even more prevalent among those nonsmokers who had a history of respiratory disease.

Children have been found to have a higher incidence of respiratory infections than adults and are thought to be more sensitive to the effects of air pollution due to their greater minute ventilation per body weight than adults. Several researchers have investigated the effects of parental smoking on the health of children. Cameron, et al. conducted two telephone surveys of Detroit families to determine the relationship between children's respiratory illness and parental smoking habits. In the first survey (9) they found a statistically significant relationship between the prevalence of

children's respiratory infection and parental smoking habits only when all children under 16 were considered (not when only those under 9 or under 5 were considered). In a larger survey of the same city (10) they found a relationship between parental smoking and prevalence of respiratory illness in the 10- to 16-year age group and in the birth to 5-year age group. Neither study controlled for smoking by the children which might be a factor in the 10- to 16-year age group or for socioeconomic status which has an effect on both smoking habits and illness. However, the data were consistent with a higher prevalence of respiratory disease in families where there are smokers than in nonsmoking families.

Colley (12) also found a relationship between parental smoking habits and the prevalence of respiratory illness in the children. He found an even stronger relationship between parental cough and phlegm production and respiratory infections in children. He postulates this latter relationship to result from the greater infectivity of these parents due to their cough and phlegm production. The relationship between parental cigarette smoking and respiratory infection in their children would then occur because cigarette smoking caused the parents to cough and produce phlegm and would not be indicative of a direct effect of cigarette smoke-filled air on the children.

Harlap and Davies (29) studied infant admissions to Hadassah Hospital in West Jerusalem and found a relationship between admissions for bronchitis and pneumonia in the first year of life and maternal smoking habits during pregnancy. Data on maternal smoking habits after the birth of the child were not obtained, but it can be assumed that most of the mothers who smoked during pregnancy continued to smoke during the first year of the infant's life. A relationship between infant admission and maternal smoking habits was demonstrable only between the sixth and ninth months of infant life and was more pronounced during the winter months (when the effect of cigarette smoke on the indoor environment would be greatest). Mothers who smoke during pregnancy are known to have infants with a lower average birth weight than the infants of nonsmoking mothers. The relationship between maternal smoking and their infants' admission to the hospital found in this study was greater for low birth weight infants, but was also found for normal birth weight infants (Table 5) (29). Harlap and Davies (29) demonstrated a dose-response relationship for maternal smoking and infant admission for bronchitis and pneumonia; however, they also found a relationship between maternal smoking and infant admissions for poisoning and injuries. This may indicate a bias in the study

TABLE 5. - Admission rates (per 100 infants) by diagnosis, birth weight, and maternal smoking

Diagnosis	Birth weight (g)						Total (including unknown)	
	<2,999		3,000 - 3,499		3,500+		S (986)	NS (9,686)
	S (297)	NS (2,326)	S (415)	NS (4,098)	S (264)	NS (3,195)		
Bronchitis and pneumonia	19.2	12.3	9.6	8.2	12.1	9.0	13.1	9.5
All other	22.6	19.9	14.5	14.6	15.2	13.3	16.9	15.5
Total	41.8	32.2	24.1	22.8	27.3	22.3	30.0	24.9

NOTE. - S=Smokers; NS=Nonsmokers.

Source: Harlap, S., Davies, A.M. (29).