

QUICK TIPS

Rx for staying smoke-free

Physician signature _____ Date ____



Problem Recommended Options

☐ Cough	Sip tea with honey. Suck on cough drops or sugarless hard candy.
Dry mouth and sore throat	Sip ice water. Suck on a fruit popsicle. Chew sugarless gum.
☐ Headache	Take a warm bath. Go for a stroll.
□ Stained teeth	Call dentist and arrange for a cleaning.
☐ Trouble sleeping	Avoid caffeine after 6 p.m. Take deep, slow breaths. Make yourself limp. Concentrate on a peaceful image. Do stretching exercises.
☐ Restless, fidgety hands	Do a puzzle. Write a letter. Give yourself a manicure. Fix a healthy meal.
☐ Feeling deprived	Reward yourself in some small way: Buy a CD or book. Go to the movies or special event. Call a supportive friend.
☐ Weight gain	Eat slowly. Drink more water or low-calorie beverages. Cut back on alcohol. Lengthen your daily exercise.
☐ Craving for snacks	Try baby carrots, pickles, sunflower seeds, grapes, raisins, pretzels, rice cakes, cherry tomatoes, toasted pita bread.
☐ Craving cigarette after dinner	Treat yourself to a mint or cup of flavored tea with honey.
☐ Feeling sad	Call a friend. Go to the park or beach. Watch a "feel-good" movie. Talk to your doctor if feelings of sadness persist.
☐ Feeling tense and confused	Start a "quitter's" diary. Finish an overdue project. Soak in a bubble bath. Take a long walk.
□ Irregularity	Eat more fresh fruit, vegetables and whole grains. Drink 6 to 8 glasses of water a day.
□ Feeling tired	Take a short walk. Do stretching exercises.
☐ Strong craving for a smoke	Take two deep breaths. Inhale slowly and hold it, then exhale slowly. Call a friend.
□ Inability to concentrate	Simplify your schedule for a few days.
☐ Friends smoke	Ask them not to smoke in your presence. Create a smoke-free work-place and home.
☐ Can't stop thinking "one won't hurt"	It will! Hold out five minutes. 10 minutes. 15 minutes. Wash your hands and brush you teeth.
☐ Invited to a party with smokers	Don't go, or plan to socialize with the non-smokers at the party.
☐ Feeling uncaring about your health	Take out and study pictures of family and friends. Plan to be around for their graduations, weddings, grandchildren.
☐ Smell of smoke creates craving	Wash all your clothes. Bring your car to a professional detailer. Frequent places where smoking is prohibited.
□ Difficulty staying motivated	Write down your most important reason for quitting and post it where you can see it throughout the day.
☐ Feeling defeated at a relapse	Strengthen your resolve: Most people make repeated attempts to quit before they are successful.