

# What's in Cigarette Smoke?

Chemicals in Cigarette Smoke	Also found in	Health Effects
Carbon Monoxide	car exhaust	restricts oxygen to body
Nicotine	pesticide	addictive
Ammonia	floor cleaner	toxic to the body
Hydrogen cyanide	gas chamber poison	breathing difficulties
Arsenic	rat poison	tingling in hands and feet
Naphthalene	moth balls	headache, sweating
DDT	insecticide	causes cancer
Cadmium	car batteries	yellow teeth, inability to smell
Vinyl chloride	garbage bags	dizziness, causes cancer
Acetic Acid	hair dye developer	skin discoloration
Lead	x-ray shielding	sleep disturbance, aching bones
Styrene	insulation	depression muscle weakness
Formaldehyde	preservative for dead bodies	causes cancer
Nitric oxide	fertilizer, explosives & dye	fluid in lung tissue

During the manufacturing process, tobacco is treated with a variety of chemicals to enhance nicotine absorption, keep the product fresh, act as filler, change the taste, control the speed of burning, etc. When burned, the resulting smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, many of which are known to cause cancer.

# The Benefits of Quitting

## Within 20 Minutes

Blood pressure drops to normal

Pulse rate drops to normal

Body temperature of hands and feet returns to normal

#### Within Eight Hours

• Carbon monoxide levels in the blood return to normal

Oxygen level increases to normal

#### Within 24 Hours

• Risk of heart attack decreases

#### Within 48 Hours

• Ability to smell and taste improves

## Within 72 Hours

Breathing gets easier as bronchial tubes relax
 Lung capacity increases

#### Within Three Weeks

Mucus in the lungs loosensLung function increases up to 30 percent

# Within Two Months

- Blood flows more easily to arms and legs
- Lung function increases up to 30 percent

#### After Three Months

• Lungs become healthier. Breathing becomes easier and colds don't come as easily

#### After One Year

• Risk of sudden death from heart attack is cut almost in half

# After Five Years

 Lung cancer death rate for the average smoker (one pack a day) decreases nearly 50 percent

#### Within 10 Years

Risk of heart attack and strokes becomes almost the same as that of non-smokers
Risk of cancer drops significantly