



February 15, 2011

Caryn Cohen
Office of Science, Center for Tobacco Products
Food and Drug Administration
9200 Corporate Boulevard
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear Ms. Cohen:

We are pleased to be able to share with the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee (TPSAC) the manuscript of the paper, "Attitudes about Banning Menthol in Cigarettes: Results from a Nationally Representative Survey." Data from this paper were delivered to the TPSAC on November 18, 2010 by Dr. Jonathan Winickoff.

This paper has been accepted for publication in the *American Journal of Public Health*. A publication date has not yet been set.

The publishers have agreed to allow us to share this manuscript with the TPSAC members and representatives and with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Center for Tobacco Products (CTP). They have asked us to note that the paper is under an embargo until its publication. We ask those who receive the paper to respect this embargo. We will alert the committee when the paper is scheduled for publication.

Thank you for considering these findings as you complete work on recommendations to FDA on the regulation of menthol tobacco products.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Jonathan D. Klein.

Jonathan D. Klein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Associate Executive Director
Director, Julius B. Richmond Center
of Excellence
American Academy of Pediatrics

Handwritten signature of David B. Abrams.

David B. Abrams, PhD, MS
Executive Director
The Schroeder Institute for Tobacco Research and
Policy Studies
Professor, Department of Health, Behavior and Society
The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health

cc. Members, Tobacco Product Scientific Advisory Committee
Lawrence R. Deyton, MSPH, MD, FDA Center for Tobacco Products
Corinne G. Husten, MD, MPH, FDA Center for Tobacco Products

Attachment

American Journal of Public Health
Manuscript Draft

Manuscript Number: AJPH-2010886R1

Title: Attitudes about Banning Menthol in Cigarettes: Results from a Nationally Representative Survey

Article Type: Brief

Section/Category: Research Paper

Keywords: African Americans; menthol cigarettes; smoking

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Abstract: Menthol is a cigarette flavoring that makes smoking more appealing to smokers. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has regulatory authority to consider a ban on mentholated cigarettes to reduce youth uptake and encourage adult cessation. Survey findings indicate that over half of Americans (56.1%), including African Americans (68.0-75.8%), support banning menthol. Endorsement of a ban, especially by African Americans, who have the highest rates of menthol use, would support FDA action to ban menthol to protect the public's health.

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