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Assessment of health costs due to tobacco smoking

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Aim: According to numerous studies, cigarette smoking is the most important cause of preventabledeath in many advanced economies. The main data on the cost of the health effects of smoking are presented by the World Health Organization in the world, and from the Institute of Health (ISS) in Italy. These data are presented in a largely aggregated way and lack any methodology for estimating the phenomenon. The research aims to propose an estimate of the cost of the phenomenon of smoking at national level, with the ability to export all at international level.

Methods: The estimation uses data on the health conditions and utilization of health servicescarried out by ISTAT (National Institute of Statistics) between 1994 and 2005. Pieces of information on the publications on the subject of WHO and the ISS were also used.

Results: The search produces an estimate of the cost of tobacco smoke in Italy with gender breakdown and employment status (employed and retired from work). A related aspect is the possibility of quantification of the costs of smoking-related diseases.

Conclusion: The estimated cost of smoking in Italy in the period 1994-2005 represents the firstattempt based on statistical methodology to produce results within a matter hither to considered asmore of a "journalistic" topic. With this approach you can not only obtain accurate estimates of the costs related to smoking, but also to obtain estimates of all that revolves around the smoking, such as smoking-related diseases. A further step of the present research will be to detect these diseases and their impact on the national health system.

Biography

Gioacchino de Candia has a degree in Statistics and PhD in Development Economy. He has worked for 15 years in the field of territorial and economic statistics for some years in the field of biostatistics. He has numerous collaborations in research programs for the Italian National Institute of Statistics(ISTAT), Italian National Institute for Work Insurance (INAIL), Institute "GuglielmoTagliacarne" and many private companies in the field of economic and biometric. He has numerous publications innational and international scientific journals.

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