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The senior scientific editor for the Community Intervention Trial for Smoking Cessation (COMMIT) monograph was Beti Thompson, Ph.D., Associate Member, Cancer Prevention Research Unit, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, Seattle, Washington. Contributing editors were David M. Burns, M.D., Professor of Medicine, University of California at San Diego Medical Center, San Diego, California, and William R. Lynn, COMMIT Project Officer, Cancer Control Science Program, Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland.

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The STCP staff members gratefully acknowledge the COMMIT field directors, staff members and volunteers, and authors who made this monograph possible. The organizational/institutional affiliations listed below represent the authors principal affiliation during the COMMIT trial. At the end of each chapter, each author’s current organizational affiliation with complete address is provided. Individual chapter attributions follow:

**Chapter 1. Smoking Control and the COMMIT Experience—Summary and Overview**

- **Donald R. Shopland**
  - National Cancer Institute
  - Bethesda, MD

- **David M. Burns, M.D.**
  - University of California at San Diego Medical Center
  - San Diego, CA

- **Beti Thompson, Ph.D.**
  - Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
  - Seattle, WA

- **William R. Lynn**
  - National Cancer Institute
  - Bethesda, MD
Chapter 2. Background for a Comprehensive Community-Based Trial for Smoking Control

Norman Hymowitz, Ph.D.
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Medical School
Newark, NJ

Michael D. Mueller, M.S.
R.O.W. Sciences, Inc.
Rockville, MD

William R. Lynn
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD

Beti Thompson, Ph.D.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Chapter 3. Community Intervention Trial for Smoking Cessation: Description and Evaluation Plan

William R. Lynn
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD

Beti Thompson, Ph.D.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Chapter 4. Community Intervention Trial for Smoking Cessation: Development of the Intervention

William R. Lynn
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD

Beti Thompson, Ph.D.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Terry F. Pechacek, Ph.D.
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Chapter 5. Mobilizing the COMMIT Communities for Smoking Control

Beti Thompson, Ph.D.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Linda Nettekoven, M.A.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Dianne Ferster
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario
CANADA
Chapter 6. Activities To Involve the Smoking Public in Tobacco Control in COMMIT

Len C. Stanley, M.P.H.
Research Triangle Institute
Research Triangle Park, NC

Juliet Thompson
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Kitty K. Corbett, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Division of Research
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program
Oakland, CA

Chapter 7. Changing Public Policy Around Tobacco Control in the COMMIT Communities

Russell C. Sciandra
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Lawrence Wallack, Dr.P.H.
Division of Research
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program
Oakland, CA

Carolyn L. Johnson, R.N.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Janine Sadlik
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Juliet Thompson
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

David S. Carrell, Ph.D.
University of Washington
Seattle, WA

Carolyn L. Johnson, R.N.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Len C. Stanley, M.P.H.
Research Triangle Institute
Research Triangle Park, NC

Juliet Thompson
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA
Chapter 8.  Activities To Enhance the Use of Cessation Resources in COMMIT

Edward Lichtenstein, Ph.D.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Paul R. Pomrehn, M.D.
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Russell C. Sciandra
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Chapter 9.  Activities To Promote Health Care Providers as Participants in Community-Based Tobacco Control

Elizabeth A. Lindsay, Ph.D.
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario
CANADA

Norman Hymowitz, Ph.D.
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Medical School
Newark, NJ

Robert E. Mecklenburg, D.D.S., M.P.H.
R.O.W. Sciences, Inc.
Rockville, MD

Linda C. Churchill, M.S.
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, MA

Blake Poland, Ph.D.
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario
CANADA

Chapter 10.  Promoting Community Tobacco Control Through Worksites

Linda Nettekoven, M.A.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Russell E. Glasgow, Ph.D.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Robert H. Shipley, Ph.D.
Research Triangle Institute
Research Triangle Park, NC
Chapter 11. Involving Diverse Community Organizations in Tobacco Control Activities

A.J. Roy Cameron, Ph.D.
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, Ontario
CANADA

Lesa T. Dalton
American Health Foundation
New York, NY

Aleena Erickson
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Sharon Ann Rankins-Burd
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Sandy Tosti, M.A.
Division of Research
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program
Oakland, CA

Glorian Sorensen, Ph.D., M.P.H.
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, MA

Kitty K. Corbett, Ph.D., M.P.H.
Division of Research
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program
Oakland, CA

Linda Nettekoven, M.A.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Linda C. Churchill, M.S.
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, MA

Lesa T. Dalton
American Health Foundation
New York, NY
Chapter 12. Promoting Communitywide Tobacco Control Activities by Involving Schools

Carolyn L. Johnson, R.N.
Oregon Research Institute
Eugene, OR

Lysha Dickinson
Division of Research
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program
Oakland, CA

Glorian Sorensen, Ph.D., M.P.H.
University of Massachusetts Medical School
Worcester, MA

Beti Thompson, Ph.D.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

Chapter 13. Involving Youth in Awareness of, Promotion of, and Political Activities for Tobacco Control

Robert J. McGranaghan, M.P.H.
Division of Research
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program
Oakland, CA

Sharon Ann Rankins-Burd
Roswell Park Memorial Institute
Buffalo, NY

Ted Purcell
University of Massachusetts Medical Center
Worcester, MA
Chapter 14. **What Have We Learned and Where Do We Go From Here?**

Beti Thompson, Ph.D.
Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center
Seattle, WA

William R. Lynn
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD

Donald R. Shopland
National Cancer Institute
Bethesda, MD

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Glen Bennett, M.P.H.
Coordinator
Advanced Technologies Applications in Health Education Programs
National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, MD

Richard A. Carleton, M.D.
Professor of Medicine
Brown University School of Medicine
Chief of Cardiology
Memorial Hospital of Rhode Island
Pawtucket, RI

Michael P. Eriksen, Sc.D.
Director
Office on Smoking and Health
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Atlanta, GA

John W. Farquhar, M.D.
Director
Stanford Center for Research in Disease Prevention
Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA

Terry F. Pechacek, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Social and Preventive Medicine
State University of New York at Buffalo
Buffalo, NY
Cheryl L. Perry, Ph.D.
Professor
Division of Epidemiology
University of Minnesota School of Public Health
Minneapolis, MN

THE COMMIT RESEARCH GROUP

The COMMIT Research Group comprises NCI staff members, advisers, and contractors responsible for the overall design and implementation of the COMMIT trial and is composed of the following individuals:

National Cancer Institute
Division of Cancer Prevention and Control (DCPC), Cancer Control Science Program (CCSP)

CCSP Acting Associate Director, Thomas J. Glynn, Ph.D.; Coordinator, Smoking and Tobacco Control Program, Donald R. Shopland

Public Health Applications Research Branch, DCPC, CCSP. Chief, Marc Manley, M.D., M.P.H.; COMMIT Program Director, William R. Lynn

Biometry Branch, DCPC. Acting Chief, Laurence S. Freedman; Lead Research Investigator, Sylvan B. Green, M.D.; Computer Systems Analyst, Donald K. Corle, M.S.; Mathematical Statisticians, Barry Graubard, Ph.D., Stuart Baker, Ph.D.

Prevention and Control Extramural Research Branch, DCPC, CCSP. Acting Chief, Sherry L. Mills, M.D., M.P.H.; Public Health Adviser, Daria A. Chapelsky, M.P.H.

Division of Cancer Etiology

Biostatistics Branch. Head, Epidemiologic Methods Section, Mitchell Gail, M.D., Ph.D.; Medical Statistician, Steven Mark, M.D., Sc.D.

Chair, COMMIT Steering Committee

Erwin Bettinghaus, Ph.D., M.A., Michigan State University

Collaborating Research Institutions

American Health Foundation (New York, New York)

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center (Seattle, Washington)

Principal Investigator: Beti Thompson, Ph.D.; Co-Investigators: Maureen Henderson, M.D., Dr.P.H.; Deborah Bowen, Ph.D.; Community Analyst: K. Mark Leek, M.A.; Field Director: Juliet Thompson, B.A.

Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program, Northern California Region, Division of Research (Oakland, California)

Principal Investigator: Lawrence Wallack, Dr.P.H.; Co-Investigator: Kitty K. Corbett, Ph.D., M.P.H.; Project Director: Robert J. McGranaghan, M.P.H.; Field Director: Sandy Tosti, M.A.; Field Director (until 1/90): Joan Bennett, M.A.

Lovelace Medical Foundation (Albuquerque, New Mexico)

Principal Investigator: Neil F. Piland, Dr.P.H.; Project Director: Lawrence R. Berger, M.D., M.P.H.; Community Analyst: Annette M. Phillipp, M.P.H.; Field Director: Aile Shebar, R.N.

Oregon Research Institute (Eugene, Oregon)

Principal Investigator: Edward Lichtenstein, Ph.D.; Co-Principal Investigator: Russell E. Glasgow, Ph.D.; Project Coordinator: Linda Nettekoven, M.A.; Field Director: Carolyn L. Johnson, R.N.; Community Analyst: Shari Reyna, M.A.

Research Triangle Institute (Research Triangle Park, North Carolina)


Roswell Park Memorial Institute (Buffalo, New York)


University of Iowa (Iowa City, Iowa)

Principal Investigator: Paul R. Pomrehn, M.D., M.S.; Project Director: John E. Ferguson, Ph.D.; Co-Investigators: Kristi J. Ferguson, Ph.D.; Robert B. Wallace, M.D., M.S.; Samuel L. Becker, Ph.D.; Harry A. Lando, Ph.D. (University of Minnesota); Community Analyst: Virginia Daughety, Ph.D.; Community Analyst (until 2/92): Kelly O’Berry, B.S.; Field Director: Aleena Erickson, B.A.
University of Massachusetts Medical School (Worcester, Massachusetts)


University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (Newark, New Jersey)


University of Waterloo (Waterloo, Ontario) and McMaster University (Hamilton, Ontario, Canada)

Principal Investigator: J. Allan Best, Ph.D.; Co-Investigators: A.J. Roy Cameron, Ph.D.; Charles H. Goldsmith, Ph.D.; Elizabeth A. Lindsay, Ph.D., M.S.; Blake Poland, Ph.D.; Nancy A. Ross, M.A.; Edward Smith, Dr.P.H. (until 6/89); S. Martin Taylor, Ph.D.; Leslie Van Dover, Ph.D., R.N.; Norman F. White, M.D.; Douglas M.C. Wilson, M.D.; Mark P. Zanna, Ph.D.; Project Director: Rosemary Walker, M.Sc.; Community Analyst: Terri Finch, B.A.; Field Director: Dianne Ferster

COMMIT Coordinating Center

Information Management Services, Inc. (Silver Spring, Maryland)


Policy Advisory Committee (PAC)

Chair: Virginia L. Ernster, Ph.D.; Karl Bauman, Ph.D.; David M. Burns, M.D.; Richard A. Carleton, M.D.; William ‘T’. Friedewald, M.D.; Charles Hennekens, M.D., Dr.P.H.; Donald Iverson, Ph.D. (also served as Chair [1987-1988]); Kenneth E. Warner, Ph.D.

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Douglas Bishop, Art Director
Rebecca A. Charton, Senior Librarian
Faye Grant, Administrative Secretary
Catherine Hageman, Word Processing Supervisor
Sabrina Hinton, Administrative Secretary
James R. Libbey, Managing Editor
Frances Nebesky, Senior Copyeditor
Donna Selig, Proofreader
Barbara Shine, Proofreader
Donna Tharpe, Quality Control Proofreader
Ruth Thompson, Word Processing Specialist
Keith W. Stanger, Graphics Services Coordinator
Sonia Van Putten, Word Processing Specialist

COMMIT MONOGRAPH DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

This represents the sixth volume in the smoking and tobacco control monograph series. The compilation process for this volume was slightly different from those generally followed in the past.

In 1993, the STCP Coordinator and COMMIT Program Director presented a concept for the volume to the COMMIT Printing and Publications Committee (P & P). The committee was established as one of several mechanisms to help prioritize manuscripts generated from the trial and to develop a process for coordinating and accessing trialwide data. In addition to offering helpful suggestions for the content and overall approach to the volume, the committee asked Dr. Beti Thompson to serve as one of the volume’s scientific editors. In addition to Dr. Thompson, editors included Dr. David M. Burns and Mr. William R. Lynn.

STCP staff members, in consultation with the volume’s scientific editors, developed a detailed outline for the volume along with a list of potential authors who represented COMMIT Principal Investigators and COMMIT field staff. The inclusion of the latter was critical given the primary purpose of the volume was to document the COMMIT intervention field experience—both positive and negative. Although individual chapters were generally written by a COMMIT Principal Investigator, the experience of the COMMIT field staff members formed the basis of what occurred at the community level. This hands-on experience was documented by COMMIT’s extensive
collection of program records and case studies. A meeting of authors and editors was held to help guide the effort, answer questions, develop a working outline, and make writing assignments. Several iterations of each chapter were usually necessary before a final draft was submitted to NCI.

Once a “final” draft of the entire volume was completed, NCI sent copies to a small group of experts who were asked to critically review the volume. These reviewers, acknowledged above, were chosen for their specific knowledge and expertise in community-based health programs. Comments received from these individuals were sent to the scientific editors for their consideration and possible integration into the volume.

This monograph, *Community-Based Interventions for Smokers: The COMMIT Field Experience*, is the work of dozens of individuals—STCP trial investigators and staff, smoking control experts, and outside scientists and experts. The monograph is organized into 14 separate chapters within 3 sections as laid out in the “Contents,” which immediately follows.