

THE NETWORK: TOWARDS UNITY
FOR HEALTH & FACULTAD DE MEDICINA,
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THE NETWORK
TOWARDS UNITY FOR HEALTH



Facultad de Medicina



TUFH2020 MEXICO

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

"PRIMARY HEALTH CARE: A PATH
TOWARDS SOCIAL JUSTICE"

SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITY BASED
RESPONSES TO COVID-19

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TUFH 2020 Abstracts

Title	WOMEN AND TOBACO. FRIENDS OR ENEMIES?
Type	Oral Presentation <i>Working with Underserved Populations towards Community Empowerment</i>
Presenting Author	GUADALUPE PONCIANO-RODRIGUEZ
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Country	Mexico
Abstract N°	TUFH440
Content	<p>Population health is influenced by individual factors and more broadly by social determinants. Women in Mexico live longer, but in worse health conditions when compared to men. Moreover, although women are more frequent users of health care services, they are disadvantaged in their access to high-quality and specialized care. Notably, the evolution of important health determinants such as alcohol and tobacco use, obesity and sedentary lifestyle have been detrimental to women`s health. Among these tobacco is a particular worry: for the last two decades, smoking has been steadily increasing among women specially in young girls in Mexico. Currently, the mean age at initiating smoking is 13 years old. The aim of this study is to analyze the relationship between women and tobacco in various aspects: social and physical and mental health. According the last National Survey in Mexico there are more than 4 million of women smoking, the risk for developing lung cancer, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) and cardiovascular disease is higher for women than for men, specially after menopause. Also depression is closely associated to smoking, therefore the burden of disease associated to smoking is higher in them. Women addicted to nicotine look for treatment almost 10 years later than men, since smoking is not socially considered as a disease. Anti-tobacco Campaigns have been scarce in Mexico and no one targeting girls and women, therefore there is an urgent need to develop prevention campaigns as well as treatments with gender orientation.</p>