



**I QUIT  
SMOKING FOR  
BABY  
AND ME**

 **Quitline**  
ME MUTU

0800 778 778

# HOW DOES SMOKING HARM MY BABY?

When you smoke, poisons enter your bloodstream, then pass through the placenta to baby. These poisons **HARM** your baby's health.

## IF YOU SMOKE WHEN PREGNANT...

Baby is **30% more likely to be born prematurely** and have a low birth weight. Premature babies and babies with low birth weights are at greater risk of lots of health problems like infection, brain hemorrhage, heart problems and even blindness. If your baby has a low birth weight it doesn't mean your labour will be easier.



The carbon monoxide from smoking means **baby gets less oxygen in the womb**. Baby's heart beats too fast. Baby's chest muscles don't have enough oxygen to exercise properly and get ready for breathing after birth.

When baby is born he/she may have withdrawal-like symptoms from tobacco. This **may make baby jittery and hard to soothe**.



You are more likely to have a **miscarriage**.



Baby is at **greater risk of lots of other health problems** including: glue ear, asthma, leukemia.

Baby is **30% more likely to die** of Sudden Unexplained Death in Infancy (SUDI or cot death).

# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF QUITTING?

Quitting smoking is one of the **BEST** decisions you will ever make, for you and your baby.

## WHEN YOU QUIT SMOKING...



In **24 HOURS** all the carbon monoxide is out of your system and your lungs work better.



You'll save **HEAPS** of money. If you smoke a pack a day it costs over \$100 every week or around \$6,000 per year. Think of all the things you could do with that cash!

You'll have clearer skin with **LESS wrinkles**, plus you'll smell better.



You'll be giving your baby a much healthier start. You're likely to live a **LONGER, healthier life** as a Mum. Smoking kills around half of all people who continue to smoke.



After a year your risk of having a heart attack is **HALVED**

**IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO QUIT FOR YOUR BABY**

Even if you have smoked for some of your pregnancy, quitting now will make baby healthier.



We know that quitting smoking can be hard. We're here to support you – not judge you.

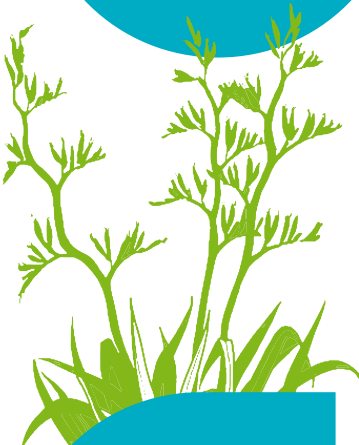
## HOW CAN QUITLINE HELP?

We offer support specially designed to help pregnant women quit smoking. We'll be there for you throughout your pregnancy and until baby is at least six weeks old. If you like, we will also talk to your partner/family about helping you to quit and making your home smokefree. Call us **0800 778 778**.

## USE PATCHES, GUM OR LOZENGES TO HELP WITH CRAVINGS

You can use nicotine patches, gum or lozenges when you are pregnant. These will help ease the cravings and are far safer than smoking. You can get patches, gum or lozenges and info on how to use them by calling Quitline (0800 778 778). We will send you a card to take to the pharmacy. Each product will cost \$5.

## LOCAL CONTACT DETAILS



If you are craving cigarettes, nicotine patches, gum or lozenges can really help. They are much safer than smoking.



## WHEN BABY IS BORN...

When baby is born it's still important to stay smokefree. The first six weeks is a time many women find challenging. Remember how well you've done in quitting smoking. Even if you don't smoke around baby, poisons from cigarettes will stay in your clothes and hair. Baby will be exposed to these.

If you feel tempted to smoke, reach out for support. You can call Quitline as often as you need to.



## A MESSAGE FOR PARTNERS/ FAMILY/WHĀNAU...

You have an important role to play in helping your pregnant partner/family member to quit and looking after the health of baby.

- The more support she has, the easier it becomes for her to quit.
- Never smoke around her and baby
- The first six weeks after baby is born can be a tough time, when she'll need your help to stay smokefree
- If you smoke, why not make this your time to quit too?

## MAKE YOUR HOME AND CAR SMOKEFREE.

Second-hand smoke also harms babies and children. Babies exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to develop asthma, pneumonia, croup and glue ear. Every year, 1,500 young children in New Zealand have ear operations because their ears are damaged by second-hand smoke.



You'll be setting a great example for your kids/mokopuna by quitting smoking. Children whose parents or caregivers smoke are **7x** more likely to become smokers themselves.



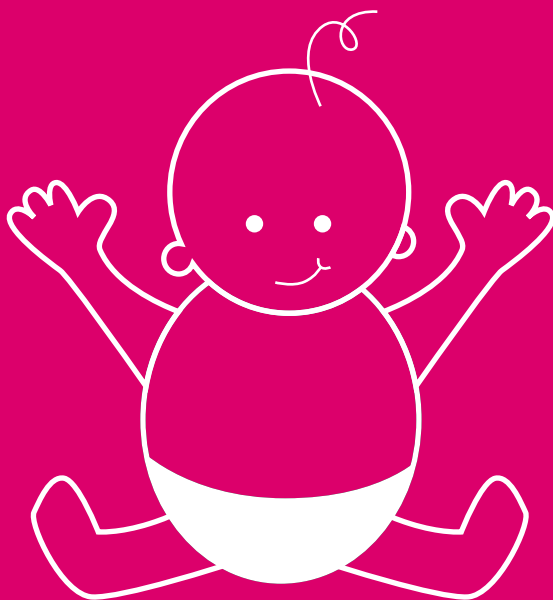
Make your home and car smokefree. If people want to smoke in your home, ask them to go outside. Don't let anyone smoke around your children.



## **YOUR PHOTO FRAME**

1. Place your scan/photo of baby in this frame
2. Tear it off and put it on the fridge or somewhere you can see it

*I'm giving my pepi (baby) the best possible start in life • I smell great! • I ♥ my baby, so I'm staying smokefree • Kia kaha, stay strong, you can do it! • I've got more cash in my pocket*



**Place your scan/photo  
of baby here**



health  
promotion  
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0800 778 778

New Zealand Government

