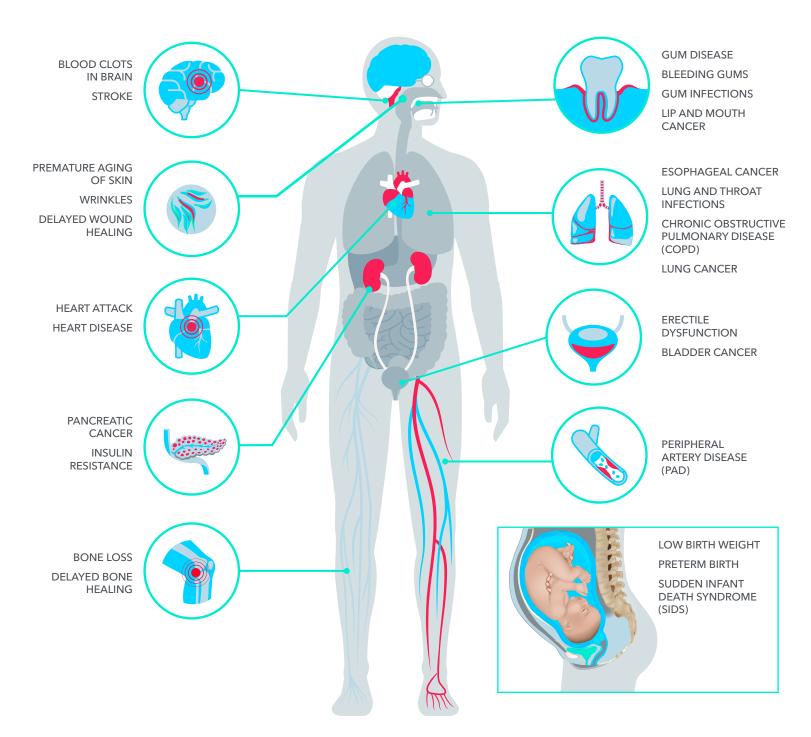


# **Break the Habit**

A Pharmacist's Toolkit for Smoking Cessation Counselling

## Risks of Smoking

Smoking poses significant health risks, including an increased likelihood of developing chronic diseases such as lung cancer, heart disease, respiratory illnesses and more.





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## **Benefits of Quitting**

Quitting smoking helps to decrease significant health risks and improve quality of life.



# **20 minutes**

your blood pressure lowers to about the same level as before your last cigarette.



8 hours

the carbon monoxide level in your body drops and the oxygen level in your blood increases to normal.



24 hours

your chances of having a heart attack start to go down.



2-12 weeks

your airways begin to relax so that breathing is easier.



WITHIN

## 1-9 months

your lung strength increases and the amount you cough decreases.



#### WITHIN

### 5 years

your risk of having a stroke becomes the same as someone who has never smoked, and your risk of developing certain cancers (mouth, throat, esophageal and bladder) is cut in half.



#### WITHIN

#### 1 year

your risk of developing smoking-related heart disease is cut in half.



#### WITHIN 10 years

your risk of developing lung cancer is cut in half.

WITHIN

#### 15 years

your risk of developing heart disease is equal to a person who never smoked!

#### Reference

Health Canada. *Quit with confidence: Deciding to quit* [internet]. June 28, 2024. Available from: www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/smoking-tobacco/quit-smoking.html. Accessed August 3, 2024.

