



MANU AO
Academy

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Dr George Laking

Tobacco Control for Māori

New Zealand has been at the forefront of tobacco control internationally for some time and has made steady progress in reducing smoking prevalence and tobacco consumption. Nevertheless, smoking remains the single biggest cause of preventable morbidity and mortality in New Zealand. It is estimated that half of all long-term smokers die of a smoking related illness. Currently, the Māori Affairs Select Committee is undertaking an inquiry into the tobacco industry in Aotearoa and the consequences of tobacco use for Māori. Dr Laking will take a critical look at tobacco control and will try to develop a pragmatic standpoint based on the expectation of benefit in the face of uncertainty.

Dr George Laking MB ChB PhD (London) FRACP, of Whakatohea, is Honorary Clinical Senior Lecturer in Oncology, School of Medical Sciences, University of Auckland. His many and varied interests include research against cancer.