

Smokers have more health problems than nonsmokers in general. For example, they have harder time healing from surgeries. As a result, they have lots of absences from work and needs to see the doctor more and hospital visits.

- Smokers tend to have more medical costs, to see physicians more often in the outpatient setting, and to be admitted to the hospital more often and for longer periods than nonsmokers
- Smokers have a lower survival rate after surgery compared to that of nonsmokers because of damage to the body's host defenses, delayed wound healing, and reduced immune response. Smokers are at greater risk for complications following surgery, including wound infections, postoperative pneumonia, and other respiratory complications.

The immune system of a smoker is weaker compared to nonsmoker thus gum diseases such as periodontitis may occur that may result to loss of teeth and bone loss. This may be because smoking affects the body's ability to fight infection and repair tissue.

- Another health condition that may develop due to smoking is peptic ulcers, which are located in the digestive tract (stomach and duodenum), usually occur in people with an infection caused by the *Helicobacter pylori* bacterium. Among persons with this infection, In severe cases, peptic ulcers can lead to death.

There are studies that shown although small in number that erectile dysfunction is related to smoking. Their findings suggest that smoking may be associated with an increased risk for this condition. More studies are needed, however, before researchers can conclude that smoking is causally related to erectile dysfunction.

Questions: (Express your ideas)

- 1. What are the disadvantages of smoking?**
- 2. Why do people begin to smoke?**
- 3. How does the smokers develop peptic ulcer?**
- 4. Why does a smoker have a lower survival rate than nonsmoker after surgeries?**
- 5. Give an example of the effects of lower immune system?**