

**STATEMENT from Dr WANG Chen**

I am grateful to have the opportunity to make a statement in support of the inclusion of bupropion into the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.

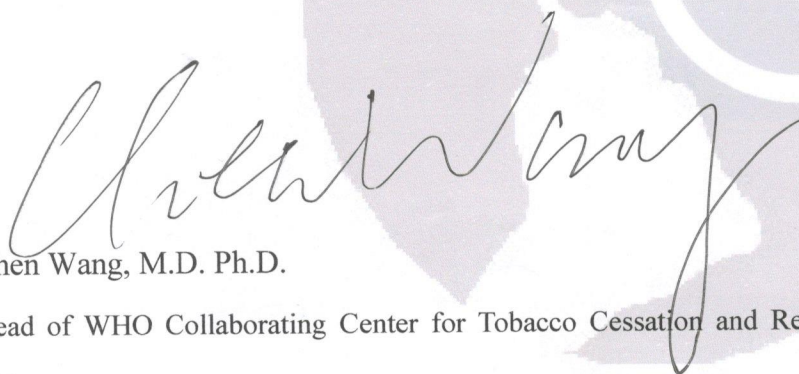
At present, chronic non-communicable diseases, including chronic respiratory disease, cancer, cardiovascular disease and diabetes, are emerging as the primary cause of death and disability around the world, and tobacco use is one of the main risk factors causing these diseases. Therefore, tobacco control should be a top priority of health-care for the world.

Among the effective tobacco control measures, offering help to quit tobacco use can more than double the chance of successfully quitting. While this is encouraging, tobacco cessation support worldwide remains low and many people do not have adequate cessation support available to them. Currently, only 30% of the world's population have access to appropriate tobacco cessation services.

As such, tobacco cessation support should be made readily accessible in order to have a greater impact on reducing the prevalence of tobacco use, particularly for pharmacotherapy. Of the pharmacologic treatment approved for smoking cessation, there is strong and consistent evidence that the use of Bupropion could reduce cravings and withdrawal symptoms, decrease the pleasurable effects of cigarettes and other tobacco products, increases the success rate in quitting smoking and is highly cost-effective.

The WHO Model list of Essential Medicines presents a list of minimum medicine needs for a basic health-care system, listing the most efficacious, safe and cost-effective medicines for priority conditions. Based on the facts and evidence above, there can be little doubt that the inclusion of Bupropion on the WHO Model list would make a big difference to help smokers to quit tobacco use.

In summary, given the robust evidence demonstrating the effectiveness, safety, adverse effects and cost effectiveness of Bupropion, I strongly endorse adding Bupropion to the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines.



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May, 12, 2021

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