

Is your apartment full of your neighbor's smoke?



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See the You-Tube Video: <http://youtu.be/FrNzJ_spCqM>

SECONDHAND SMOKE MONITORING AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Infiltration of secondhand smoke (SHS) in apartments and condominiums is a widespread public health problem and a major nuisance affecting millions of residents of multifamily dwellings from Maine to California and beyond.

Affected residents of apartments and attached houses experience significant health and annoyance effects, depriving them of the right of quiet enjoyment of their homes. However, legislatures in most states have refused to address this serious problem, despite it being the source of widespread complaints. Nicotine is the definitive tracer for secondhand smoke intrusion in multifamily dwellings. A nicotine test provides legal proof that the secondhand smoke invasion is occurring, and is used to provide quantitative assessment of the level of acute irritation and odor nuisance, as well as the chronic risk of mortality from lung cancer and heart disease posed by secondhand smoke. Passive diffusion monitors (photo above) are used by scientists to measure nicotine concentrations. The monitor must be deployed by the resident in the affected area for 1 month.

The total cost for the test including a comprehensive, legally defensible scientific analysis of the exposure and risk level, an explanation of how SHS migrates between units, a discussion of the legal issues for condo owners, homeowners' associations, tenants, landlords, nonsmokers and smokers, the statements of public health authorities, and which localities have banned smoking in multifamily dwellings, is \$600: including \$100 for the lab, and \$500 for the report interpreting the results.