Smokeless Tobacco Use Among San Antonio Immigrant and Refugee Populations

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**BACKGROUND**

- 5.9 million adults in the US use Smokeless Tobacco (ST)7
- >30 products: paan, betel quid, chewing tobacco, snuff, gutka8
- High prevalence of ST in immigrant and refugee (Afghani, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Vietnamese, Burmese, Mexican-Hispanics) populations
- Linked to oral cancer, dental disease (caries, periodontal), overall morbidity & mortality

**Study Aims**

- Gather information from the immigrant community (So. Tx)
- Demographics
- Prevalence of use
- Types of ST used and why
- Access

**METHODS**

- Recruitment Plan
  - n=100 community members and n=100 practitioners
- Survey
  - 29 questions survey
  - Enrollment 6 months
  - $20 survey completion
- Community Partners
  - SA Refugee Health Clinic & E! Bari Community Center
  - Supported by an IMLS Grant

**RESULTS**

- n= 61 community members
- 84% male
- 72% of Asian ethnicity (primarily Afghani & Pakistani), 9% Latinos, 19% were other/preferred not to answer
- 28% of all participants used snuff tobacco, 13% used chewing tobacco, and 11% used dip tobacco
- 40% of Asians used areca nut
- 48% convenience stores and 27% from supermarkets

**CONCLUSIONS**

- High ST use among Asian refugee populations
- Dental practitioner surveys will be completed
- There is a need for an ST-tailored cessation program

**CITATIONS**

7) Smokeless Tobacco Use in the United States. (2022, November 10).