

# Finding current smokers in System 5



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System 5 reports are not always as easy as they might be. They are, however, very powerful. One often requested report is to find all the smokers in the practice.

The problem lies with all the possible codes that may have been used, and the fact that a note in 1992 saying 'Heavy smoker' may be superseded in 1998 by a note saying 'Current non-smoker' or similar. A simple report to find all heavy smokers will find such a patient, even though he has stopped smoking.

This is where ANA, the menu option for Audit and Numerical Analysis, comes in useful. ANA allows you to search for the first (or last) relevant Read Code in a patient's notes.

Type ANA from main system 5 menu. A message at the bottom of screen will say something like 'Work files last updated Oct 22 2000': if this date isn't recent, then I suggest that you run option 5 and REFRESH the work files. This may take an hour or so.

Work files are generated lists of patients who meet chosen criteria. The criteria include latest BP, latest smoking, earliest asthma record and so on. This list is then used to run rapid ANA reports.

One of the work-files generated is called SMOKING. It contains a list of all patients with a smoking history, and a reference to their latest smoking code.

This can then be used with ANA option **2 SELECT/VIEW** to generate a list of just current smokers. This option uses existing Work/data files.

Type **E** <Return> to Enter details

Type **SMOKING** <Return> (in capitals) as the selected work file for analysis. If the SMOKING data file is present, the title 'Tobacco consumption' or similar will appear.

Optionally specify a period of time, or press <Return> to accept default of 9999 years (i.e. ever!)

Type **R** <Return> to specify that you are interested in the Read Code itself (rather than any attached numeric value).

Type **23456CGJMPR** <Return> This line ensures that smoking Read Codes (.137) will be selected if they have any of the stated characters as the right hand end character. If you look at the smoking picking list you will see that those suffixes mean that the code suggests a smoker.

Amend the title from 'Tobacco consumption' to 'Current smoker'

Type **Y** <Return> to rename the INTER file and give it a filename of SMOKER.

Finally select output criteria.

**T** <Return> for Totals

**0-100** <Return> for age range

**N** <Return> not to save final output.

**R** <Return> to run this report. The screen will display the total number of current smokers in this age range.

If you want them to be listed, type **0** (zero) to exit back to ANA Main menu.

Choose option **3** to manipulate files.

Choose option **4** to EXPORT to System 5 RR reports.

**E** <Return> to ENTER

**SMOKER** <Return>

**SMOKER** <Return>

**Current smoker** <Return> as the title.

**R** <Return> to send the file to the RR reports where it will be a sorted file.

**0** <return> (i.e. zero) a few times will return you to the main System 5 menu.

You can then access the list of smokers, and even print out their details, as well as the latest smoking history, using:-

**RR** from the main System 5 menu

From index : **0** Sorted file

Selected by: **SMOKER** Input file is present

No filter

Sort order : **S** Surname order

Format : **NC11** Note code (1) and Lookback (1)

File/printer: **S** Screen pause

Note code : **137**

Lookback :

**F7 RUN**, and there is your list.

This is one of the most complex searches on System 5, and needs to be done in stages. Master this and you can do almost anything!