Supplementary Table I (SI): Summary of phenotype phrasing question for participating studies. Column 1 lists the acronym for each group, defined in Supplementary Data. Columns 2 and 4 provide the questions used by each study to define Age of Initiation (AOI) and Age of First Regular Smoking (AOS), respectively. Columns 3 and 5 show the mean AOI and AOS, respectively.

Dataset	Age of Initiation (AOI) Definition	mean AOI	Age of First Regular Smoking (AOS) Definition	mean AOS
ACS-COPD			"How old did you begin smoking cigarettes?"	19.2
ACS-LCA			"How old did you begin smoking cigarettes?"	18
Add Health	"How old were you when you smoked a whole cigarette for the first time?"	12.8	"How old were you the very first time you smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of 2 months?"	15.5
ARIC			"How old were you when you first started regular cigarette smoking"?	18.5
BOMA			"How old were you when you started smoking regularly the first time in your life"?	18.1
CADD	"How old were you the first time you used tobacco?"	14	"How old were you when you started using tobacco on a regular basis, that is, at least once per month?"	15.4
COGA	"How old were you the first time you used any form of tobacco?"	14.3	"How old were you the first time you smoked cigarettes at that rate (when you were smoking regularly)?"	21.9
COGEND	"How old were you the first time you ever smoked even a puff of a cigarette?"	13.3	"How old were you the very first time you smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of 2 months?"	15.5
Dental-Caries	"How old were you the first time you smoked a cigarette when an adult was not around?"	13.8		
EAGLE-PLCO			"Age started smoking regularly?"	18
FINRISK			"How old were you when you started smoking?"	21.6
GEOS			"How old were you when you first started to smoke cigarettes"?	16.9
KCI-WSU			"How old were you when you first started smoking cigarettes?"	16.4
LHS-Utah			"At what age did you become a daily	17.4

			cigarette smoker?"	
LOLIPOP			“What age did you start smoking?”	17.6
MDACC LCA			"How old were you when you began to smoke cigarettes?"	17.5
MDACC Melanoma			"At what age did you become a regular cigarette smoker?"	18.6
MUC12-cases			"I began to smoke at the age of __."	19.5
MUC12-controls			"I began to smoke at the age of __."	20.1
MUCMD-cases			"I began to smoke at the age of __."	18.9
MUCMD-controls			"I began to smoke at the age of __."	20.2
NAG-OZALC			"How old were you when you started smoking cigarettes every day for two months?"	17
NAG-FIN	"How old were you the first time you smoked a whole cigarette?"	15.4	"How old were you when you first smoked cigarette every day or nearly every day for at least two months in a row?"	18.1
NESDA			"At what age did you first start smoking?"	16.3
NFBC1966	"Have you ever smoked in your life? (if yes, move to next question). “Yes, I started when I was ___ years old."	16.1	"Have you ever been smoking regularly?” (one cigarette, cigar, mini-cigar or pipeful nearly every day for at least a year) (if yes, move on). “Yes, I have smoked regularly for altogether ___ years.” (this value was subtracted from age at interview).	18.3
NHS-BRCA			"How old were you when you first started to smoke regularly?"	19.5
NHS-CHD			"How old were you when you first started to smoke regularly?"	19.7
NHS-T2D			"How old were you when you first started to smoke regularly?"	19.6

NTR1	“At what age did you smoke your first cigarette (yrs)?”	16.2	"At what age did you start smoking regularly?"	18.7
NTR2	“At what age did you smoke your first cigarette (yrs)?”	15.9	"At what age did you start smoking regularly?"	18.1
NYS-FS	"How old were you the first time you tried tobacco?"	14.2	"How old were you when you first began using tobacco on a regulary basis, that is at least once per month?"	17
QIMR	“At what age did you first use tobacco products?”	16.4		
SHIP			"How old were you started smoking regularly?"	18.5
SMOFAM			"How old were you the very first time you smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of 2 months?"	17.8
STR			“At what age did you smoke regularly (1973)?”, “At what age did you start to smoke (1998)?”. 1973 survey answer taken unless it wasn’t available then took 1998.	18
UTAH	"How old were you the first time you tried a cigarette?"	14.8	"How old were you when you started smoking cigarettes daily?"	18
VA-Twin	"How old were you the first time you smoked a cigarette?"	14.4	"How old were you when you began to use tobacco regularly?"	17.3
WTCCC-CHD			"How old were you the very first time you smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of two months?"	16.5
WTCCC-HT			"How old were you the very first time you smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of two months?"	17.7
YALE	"How old were you the first time you used any form of tobacco?"	13.8	"When you smoked regularly, how many days per week did you usually smoke cigarettes. How old were you the first time you smoked cigarettes at that rate?"	17.5
YFS	"At what age did you try smoking a cigarette for the first time"?	10.9	"How old were you when you started regular smoking?"(mean of the three follow-up studies in 1980, 1983, and 1986)	14.6

Supplemental Dataset Descriptions

The American Cancer Society (ACS) Cancer Prevention Study-II Nutrition Cohort (ACS_COPD; ACS_LCA)

The American Cancer Society (ACS) Cancer Prevention Study-II (CPS-II) Nutrition Cohort is a prospective study of cancer incidence and mortality among 86,404 men and 97,786 women. The Nutrition Cohort, which is described in detail elsewhere[1], was initiated in 1992 as a subgroup of CPS-II, a prospective study of cancer mortality involving approximately 1.2 million Americans begun in 1982. Participants in the Nutrition Cohort were recruited from CPS-II members who resided in 21 states and were between the ages of 50 and 74 years. At enrollment in 1992/1993, participants completed a self-administered questionnaire that included demographic, medical, dietary, and lifestyle information. Follow-up questionnaires were sent to all living Nutrition Cohort members in 1997, and every two years after this to update exposure information and to ascertain newly diagnosed cancers. All aspects of the CPS-II Nutrition Cohort study are approved by the Emory University Institutional Review Board.

For the smoking population, all subjects were required to have smoked more than 100 cigarettes lifetime. A detailed description of this population appears elsewhere[2]. Age of first regular smoking was defined as the age at which an individual began smoking cigarettes. For this meta-analysis, the CPS-II Nutrition cohort smoking cohort (CPS-II_COPD) contributed 2791 unrelated European-Americans with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

DNA was obtained from either a buffy coat or buccal cell sample collected from participants between 1998 and 2002. Genotyping was carried out using Illumina GoldenGate and Sequenom MassArray iPLEX technology. SNPs with a call rate of less than 95% and those for which Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) was rejected ($p<0.05$) were excluded. DNA samples with call rate <90% were also excluded.

Participants who developed lung cancer between enrollment in 1992 and 2006 were identified either through self report on a follow-up questionnaire or through linkage with the National Death Index. The lung cancer diagnosis of the self reported cases was verified through medical records or linkage with state cancer registries. Controls were selected from a group of CPS-II participants for whom extensive genotyping had already been completed and who were cancer-free at the time of diagnosis of their matched case. Controls were matched to cases on age (± 2.5 years), gender, and sample type for DNA (buffy coat or buccal cell). All cases and controls were of European descent. Age of first regular smoking was defined as the age at which an individual began smoking cigarettes. For this meta-analysis, the CPS-II Nutrition cohort lung cancer population (CPS-II_LCA) contributed 988 unrelated European-American smokers.

DNA was obtained from either a buffy coat or buccal cell sample collected from CPS-II Nutrition cohort participants between 1998 and 2002. Genotyping of the DNA samples was carried out using Illumina HumanHap550K, HumanHap610, or HumanHap 1 Million technologies. Genotypes with a call rate of less than 85%, more than 1 HapMap replicate error, more than a 3% (autosomal) or 5% (X chromosome) difference in call rate between genders, or more than 0.5% male AB frequency for the X chromosome, were excluded.

References:

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The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health)

The National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) is a longitudinal study of adolescents in grades 7-12 in the United States during the 1994-1995 school year. A sample of 80 high schools and 52 middle schools was systematically selected to ensure the sample was representative of United States schools with respect to region, urbanicity, school size, school type, and ethnicity. The Add Health cohort has been followed into young adulthood with four in-home interviews (corresponding to Waves I, II, III, IV) http://www.cpc.unc.edu/projects/addhealth/projects/addhealth. The most recent interview occurred in 2008, when the sample was aged 24-32. Survey data include respondents' social, economic, psychological and

physical well-being with contextual data on family, neighborhood, community, school, friendships, peer groups, and romantic relationships. The Add Health genetic pairs sample includes pairs of individuals with varying genetic similarity including monozygotic twins, dizygotic twins, full siblings, half siblings, and unrelated siblings who were raised in the same household[1].

Age of smoking initiation was assessed from the in-home questionnaire for Wave I. Individuals were asked how old they were the first time they smoked a whole cigarette. If an individual had not yet initiated at the time of Wave I, the response was taken from Wave III. Age of first regular smoking was ascertained from the in-home questionnaire for Wave IV. Individuals were asked whether they had ever smoked cigarettes regularly. If they answered no or did not respond, they were excluded from analysis. A total of 1478 Caucasian non-Hispanic sibling pairs were genotyped from this community sample. For this meta-analysis, Add Health contributed a sample of 690, Caucasian, non-Hispanic subjects (self-reported) sibling pairs with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

DNA was derived from buccal cells collected from the genetic pairs sample. Genomic DNA was preamplified with the method of Zheng[2]. Taqman assays for allelic discrimination (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used to determine SNP genotypes. QC performed on the genotyped sample (by sample and by SNP) excluded individuals with less than 50% genotypes (assumed poor quality DNA sample). All SNPs had greater than 95% genotype calling after exclusion of individuals with low quality DNA samples. All genotypes were called by two independent individuals.

References:

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Atherosclerosis Risk Communities Study (ARIC)

The ARIC study is a population-based, prospective cohort study of cardiovascular disease and its risk factors sponsored by National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI)[1]. ARIC included 15,792 individuals aged 45-64 years at baseline (1987-89), chosen by probability sampling from four US communities[2]. Cohort members completed four clinic examinations, conducted three years apart between 1987 and 1998. Follow-up for clinical events was annual. Age of first regular smoking was assessed by asking the individual when was the first time they began regular smoking. The current analysis included 5775 males and females of European ancestry on whom baseline smoking information was available and had both genotypic and phenotypic information.

References:

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University of Bonn and CIMH Mannheim (BoMa)

The BoMa sample (n=1050) included in this meta-analysis is comprised of three subsamples: patients with a DSM-IV diagnosis of: i) major depression (n=249), ii) bipolar affective disorder (n=389), iii) schizophrenia (n=412) included in GWASs[1,2,3] on the above mentioned disorders and originating from larger samples collected for association studies on the respective phenotypes. Patients were recruited from consecutive admissions to the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Bonn, and the Central Institute of Mental Health Mannheim, Germany and were all of self reported German ancestry/ethnicity. All subjects

included here were current or former smokers. Written informed consent was obtained from all the participants. The studies were approved by the appropriate institutional review boards.

Genomic DNA was prepared from whole blood according to standard procedures. Genotyping of the patients was performed using Illumina HumanHap550v3 bead chips. Stringent quality control procedures were followed, briefly: DNA samples with call rates < 98% were dropped and SNPs were required to pass the following filters: call rate ≥ 98%, minor allele frequency ≥ 0.01 and conformity with HWE ($p \geq 1e\text{-}6$). Self reported ancestry was verified using EIGENSOFT[4].

Age of first regular smoking was ascertained by asking the individual how old they were when they started smoking regularly for the first time in their life. BoMa contributed to this meta-analysis, unrelated individuals with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

References:

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Brisbane Adolescent Twin Study (NU)

The Brisbane Longitudinal Twin Study[3,4] (BLTS) began in 1992 at the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) when twins were recruited from primary and secondary schools in the greater Brisbane area via media appeals and by word of mouth. Twins were ascertained along with family members as part of a study examining the development of melanocytic naevi at ages 12 and 14, and of cognition at age 16 at the QIMR. Currently, the BLTS sample comprises both adolescent and young adult twins (3,408 individuals) and their non-twin siblings (1,572), constituting 1,703 families. This includes both monozygotic (MZ) and dizygotic (DZ) twin pairs, including opposite-sex DZ twin pairs, along with singleton siblings of twins, and the twins' parents. A subset of participants within this cohort (2,625) were genotyped on the Illumina Human610-Quad SNP chip. These samples were genotyped in the context of a larger GWAS, which resulted in the genotyping of 16,140 individuals27 with the use of the Illumina 317, 370, and 610 SNP chips. Genotype data were screened for genotyping quality (GenCall < 0.7), SNP and individual call rates (< 0.95), HWE failure ($p < 10^{-6}$), and MAF (< 0.01). Because these samples were genotyped in the context of a larger project, the data were integrated with the larger QIMR genotype project and checked for pedigree, sex and Mendelian errors and for non-European ancestry[2].

Tobacco use phenotypes were collected as part of the ongoing 19up wave of data collection. As part of this study participants completed a web-based self-report questionnaire that included a section on use of both legal and illicit substances[1].

References:

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Family, twin, and adoption studies of the Colorado Center on Antisocial Drug Dependence (CADD)

A subset of 1075 participants were drawn from the full CADD sample encompassing over 5000 youth, where the inclusion criteria included those assessed between ages 27 and 21. The full CADD sample consists of adolescents from both clinical and community populations[1, 2] . Clinical probands were recruited from three treatment facilities in the Denver metropolitan area. The probands were 13-19 years of age at time of assessment and were drawn from individuals with consecutive admissions to the treatment facilities between February 1993 and June 2001. The community-based sample included monozygotic and dizygotic twins and their non-twin siblings drawn from the Colorado Twin Registry. Additional community samples were drawn from two other Colorado community-based family samples: the Colorado Adoption Project (CAP) and the Colorado Adolescent Substance Abuse (ASA) family study[3]. All study participants were given cognitive, psychiatric, and socio-demographic assessments that included both structured diagnostic interviews as well as self-reported questionnaires.

Substance use patterns (including CPD) were assessed with the Composite International Diagnostic Interview—Substance Abuse Module (CIDI-SAM), a structured, face-to-face diagnostic assessment designed to be administered by trained, lay interviewers[4]. This assessment procedure has been shown to be valid for adolescent subjects[5]. All research protocols and consent forms were approved by institutional review boards of the University of Colorado.

Genomic DNA was isolated from buccal cells using a modification of published procedures[6, 7, 8]. Taqman assays for allelic discrimination (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used to determine SNP genotypes. Quality Control measures were performed on the genotyped sample (by sample and by SNP). Individuals with less than 50% genotypes were excluded (assumed poor quality DNA sample). All SNPs had greater than 95% genotype calling after exclusion of individuals with low quality DNA samples. All genotypes were called by two independent individuals.

Age of smoking initiation was assessed by asking the individual how old they were the first time they used tobacco. Age of first regular smoking was ascertained by asking the individual how old they were when they started using tobacco on a regular basis, that is at least once per month. This meta-analysis utilized 397 unrelated subjects of European Ancestry with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

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Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA)

This is a case-control study of alcoholism, in which the subjects have been drawn from the Collaborative Study on the Genetics of Alcoholism (COGA), a large, ongoing family-based study that includes subjects from seven sites around the US [1]. COGA has gathered detailed, standardized data on study participants, including diagnostic and neurophysiological assessments. This sample has already proved successful in identifying several genes that influence the risk for alcoholism and neurophysiological endophenotypes, which have been independently replicated [2,3].

Alcoholic probands were recruited from treatment facilities, assessed by personal interview, and after securing permission, other family members were also assessed. A set of comparison families was drawn from the same communities as the families recruited through an alcoholic proband. Assessment involved a detailed personal interview developed for this project, the Semi-Structured Assessment for the Genetics of Alcoholism (SSAGA), which gathers detailed information on alcoholism related symptoms along with other drugs and psychiatric symptoms.

Age of smoking initiation was ascertained by asking the subject how old they were the first time they used any form of tobacco. Age of first regular smoking was derived by asking how old they were the first time they smoked cigarettes at that rate (rate being defined by the time they were smoking regularly). The COGA groups contributed 1704 subjects to this meta-analysis with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

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Collaborative Genetic Study of Nicotine Dependence (COGEND)

The Collaborative Genetic Study of Nicotine Dependence (COGEND) is a United States multi-site project. Subjects were recruited from St. Louis, Detroit, and Minneapolis through community-based telephone screening to determine eligibility for the study. Cases were required to have current Fagerström Test for Nicotine Dependence (FTND) ≥ 4 and controls were required to have a lifetime maximum FTND of 0 or 1, even during the period of heaviest smoking.

DNA was derived from whole blood maintained by the Rutgers University Cell and DNA Repository following stringent quality control and assurance procedures (www.rucdr.org). Genotyping of the DNA samples was carried out using Perlegen, Illumina GoldenGate, and Sequenom MassArray iPLEX technology. Cleaning procedures have been detailed[1,2]. Briefly, DNA samples with call rates < 90% were dropped; SNPs were required to pass a call rate threshold of 98%.

Age of smoking initiation was assessed by asking the individual how old they were the first time they ever smoked even a puff of a cigarette. Age of first regular smoking was derived by asking how old they were the first time they smoked cigarettes everyday or nearly everyday for a period of two months. For this meta-analysis, COGEND contributed a sample of 2057 unrelated European-Americans with both genotypic and phenotypic information. All subjects were smokers and reported smoking ≥ 100 cigarettes lifetime. The study obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards.

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Dental Caries: GENEVA Genome Wide Association Study ("Caries GENEVA Study")

The Dental Caries: GENEVA Genome Wide Association Study (Caries GENEVA Study) is a multi-site collaboration that is part of the GENEVA consortium (www.genevastudy.org). Subjects were recruited from Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Iowa through three on-going population-based family cohort studies of factors related to oral health: the Center for Oral Health Research in Appalachia (COHRA)[1, 2], the Iowa Fluoride Study (IFS)[3] and the Iowa Bone Development Study (IBDS)[4]. COHRA ascertained families from rural counties in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, the IFS and IBDS ascertained families from primarily central Iowa. The families in each of the cohort studies were not selected based on any phenotype; they were meant to be representative of their respective communities. For this meta-analysis, the Caries GENEVA Study contributed a sample of 459 unrelated European-Americans ≥ 25 years of age who had ever smoked. Age of smoking initiation was defined as the age at which a subject smoked a cigarette when an adult was not around. Each cohort study obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards.

DNA was extracted from whole blood, saliva samples or buccal samples from each participant. Genotyping was done at the Johns Hopkins Center for Inherited Disease Research (www.cidr.jhmi.edu). Data was released for 4,073 study samples (99.4% of attempted samples), including the 639 included here. Genotyping was performed using Illumina Human610-Quadv1_B BeadChips (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA) and the Illumina Infinium II assay protocol (Gunderson et al. 2006). General data cleaning procedures have been detailed elsewhere (Laurie et al, 2010). Briefly, DNA samples with call rates < 85% were dropped as were SNPs with more than 1 HapMap replicate error, more than a 2% (autosomal) or 10% (X) difference in call rate between genders, more than 1.8% male AB frequency (X), or more than a 7% (autosomal) or 5% (XY) difference in AB frequency. Self-reported race was verified.

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EAGLE/PLCO

The 5955 participants derive from EAGLE (3899) and PLCO (2056). All subjects from EAGLE and PLCO were genotyped on the Illumina 550K chip. The GenCall software, part of Illumina's Bead Studio Suite, was used to automatically cluster probe intensity values, call genotypes and assign confidence scores. The overall completion rate was 99.61%. Other quality control included checks of sample heterozygosity, gender check, Hardy-Weinberg proportion, concordance/discordance rates, relatedness check, and assessment of population structure using the STRUCTURE program. See Landi 2009 for details. The EAGLE/PLCO group contributed 4948 unrelated individuals with both genotypic and phenotypic information. Some details of the studies follow.

EAGLE (Environment and Genetics in Lung Cancer Etiology study)

EAGLE is a large population-based case-control study designed and conducted to investigate the genetic and environmental determinants of lung cancer and smoking persistence using an integrative approach that allows combined analysis of genetic, environmental, clinical, and behavioral data[1, 2].

The study includes over 2,101 incident lung cancer cases, both males and females of Italian nationality, ages 35 to 79 years old, with verified lung cancer of any histological type, and over 2,120 healthy population-based controls matched to cases by age, gender, and residence. The participation rate was high: 85% and 73% in cases and controls, respectively. The age distribution of the subjects: 224 (< 50), 283 (51-55), 524 (56-60), 61-65 (752), 66-70 (883), 71-75 (807), and >75 (426).

Lung cancer cases were enrolled from 13 hospitals within the Lombardy region of Italy. The healthy controls were randomly selected from the same residential area of the lung cancer cases. The study setting, the Lombardy region of Italy, is served by a network of modern hospitals, medical schools, and a regional health service. Within the Lombardy region, the catchment's area includes 5 cities (Milan, Monza, Brescia, Pavia, and Varese) 216 surrounding municipalities, encompassing, in the selected age range, over 3.0 million people.

Extensive epidemiological data have been collected through both an interview-based computer-assisted questionnaire and a self-administered questionnaire. Available data includes demographical characteristics, detailed smoking history (active and passive), family history of lung cancer and other cancers, previous lung diseases, medications, diet, alcohol, attempts at quitting smoking, anxiety, depression, personality scores, occupation, reproductive and residential history.

Clinical data (stage, grade, histology, imaging and pathology reports, spirometry, and routine laboratory studies) were recorded. All study subjects donated a blood sample (or, rarely, a buccal rinse sample), which was processed to obtain cryopreserved lymphocytes, RBC, granulocytes, DNA, RNA, whole blood, buffy coat, serum, plasma, and blood cards. Lung tissue paraffin blocks and slides were collected from the cases who underwent surgery, biopsy or cytological examination of the lung tumor. Multiple fresh "normal" lung tissue and tumor samples, frozen in liquid nitrogen within 20 minutes of excision, were also collected from over 436 surgical cases. Paraffin-embedded tissue blocks (656) or tissue slides (1192) are obtained on a substantial subset of the cases.

All data and biospecimen information are stored in a secure relational database. Quality control procedures were implemented to ensure accuracy, completeness, and privacy of the data collected. Epidemiological data and DNA specimens were collected from 98.4% and 97.3% of the cases, respectively. Extensive epidemiological data was collected through both a Computer Assisted Personal interview (CAPI) and a self-administered questionnaire.

Data on tobacco smoking included: information on number of cigarettes and other tobacco products per day, averaged over each smoking period of life and during the last year, age at first cigarette, at initiation (i.e., at least once per week) and quitting; the number of quitting attempts and time between attempts, inhalation habits, passive smoking during childhood, at home and in the workplace, self-reported willingness to quit smoking. Smoking status (classification into never, ever and current smoking status) was established by review of smoking data. Ever smokers all had 'smoked greater than 100 cigarettes during their lifetime' with a frequency of one or more cigarettes per week, establishing their status as smokers. Former smokers had indicated that in addition 'during the last 6 months' they had not been smoking, i.e. (not at all or less than one cigarette per week'). Current smokers, in addition to their status as smokers, indicated that during the last six months they smoked at least one cigarette per week. This smoking information was cross validated through checks for concordance with the other smoking information listed above.

The Prostate, Lung, Colon, Ovary Clinical Trial (PLCO)

The Prostate, Lung, Colon, Ovary Clinical Trial randomized 150,000 individuals aged 55-74 years from 10 US study centers between 1992-2001 to undergo a specific cancer screening regime or receive routine medical care to evaluate the effects of screening on disease-specific mortality[3].

Study participants from PLCO include 2056 from the lung cancer study comprised of 1174 males and 882 females. The age distribution of the participants was 51-54 (3), 56-60 (65), 61-65 (255), 66-70 (485), 71-75 (579), >75 (669). Smoking behaviors were measured by baseline questionnaire (BQ) in the PLCO (administered from 1994-2001). Former smokers were defined as ever-smokers who did not smoke regularly at BQ and were asked to report the age at which they stopped smoking regularly. Ever smokers were asked to provide information on the number of cigarettes they smoked per day, in categories (1-10, 11-20, 21-30, 31-40, 41-60, 61-80, over 80). For continuous analyses we assigned subjects to the midpoint of their category (or 90 cigarettes per day for over 80). Smoking status was revisited in a follow-up Supplemental Questionnaire (SQX) conducted between April 2006 and May 2007. Among 134,992 eligible not deceased PLCO participants, 103,643 forms were returned, keyed, and processed. In subjects from the intervention arm (all participants in the current study derive from this group) the never, former and current categories assessed in the original questionnaire remained very stable. For example, among 21,111 former smokers, only 571 'relapsed' (2.7%), returned to current smoking status. 485 (2.3%) relapsed but indicated that they had now quit again.

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FINRISK Study

Description of the study

The National FINRISK Study is a population risk factor survey on non-communicable diseases carried out in Finland every fifth year since 19721. For every survey round an age and sex stratified random sample has been drawn from the population register. The sample size for each survey round has varied between 8000 and 13500. The survey includes a self-administered questionnaire, physical measurements carried out by trained survey nurses and a draw of blood samples. For this meta-analysis, the National FINRISK Study data since 1992, including DNA sample collection, have been used including surveys carried out in 1992, 1997, 2002 and 2007.

Smoking info from the study

The valid sample for phenotype analyses included 7726 smokers (42% women). Age of first regular use was assessed from a question asking the participant how old they were when they started smoking.

Informed consent/IRB approval was current

All FINRISK surveys have been approved by the appropriate ethics committees. An informed consent has been received from all participants.

How DNA was obtained

DNA was derived from whole blood samples. Samples were transferred to the laboratory of molecular genetics in the National Institute of Health and Welfare (earlier National Public Health Institute, KTL), where the DNA was extracted. Genotyping of the DNA samples was carried out using iPlex assay on the MassARRAY System (Sequenom, San Diego, CA, USA) standard protocols. DNA samples were missing/not given for some participants.

SNP info

The SNPs included in the analyses, rs16969968, rs578776, and rs588765 all had genotyping success of nearly 98% (37--51 missing genotypes per SNP) and Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium test p-values of 0.59, 0.02, 0.15, respectively. The minor (MAF) and major alleles were A (32%) and G; T (32%) and C ; T (37%), respectively.

Variable definitions

Age varied 25-74 years (mean age 44.6 years, SD 12.0) at the time of assessment. Participants were born between 1923 and 1982, and most of them (90%) between 1923 and 1972. Age of onset of regular smoking information was from 7542 participants (mean 21.6 years, SD 12.1);

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University of Maryland: The Genetics of Early Onset Stroke (GEOS) Study:

The Genetics of Early Onset Stroke (GEOS) study is a population-based case-control study designed to identify the genetic determinants of ischemic stroke. Subjects were recruited from the greater Baltimore-Washington area between 1992 and 2008. Cases were defined as young adults 15-49 with first-ever ischemic stroke identified through discharge surveillance from 1 of 59 participating hospitals and direct physician referral. Abstracted medical records were reviewed and adjudicated for ischemic stroke subtype by two neurologists according to previously published procedures[1,2], with discrepancies resolved by a third neurologist. The ischemic stroke subtype classification system retains information on all probable and possible causes, and is reducible to the more widely used TOAST[3] system that assigns each case to a single category. Controls had no history of ischemic stroke and were identified through random digit dialing. Controls were matched to cases based on sex, age, race, and geographic location.

Ischemic strokes with the following characteristics were excluded from participation: stroke occurring as an immediate consequence of trauma; stroke within 48 hours after a hospital procedure, stroke within 60 days after the onset of a nontraumatic subarachnoid hemorrhage, and cerebral venous thrombosis. Additional exclusions for these genetic analyses were known single-gene or mitochondrial disorder recognized by a distinctive phenotype (e.g., cerebral autosomal dominant arteriopathy with subcortical infarcts and leukoencephalopathy (CADASIL), mitochondrial encephalopathy with lactic acidosis and stroke-like episodes (MELAS), homocystinuria, Fabry disease, or sickle cell anemia); mechanical aortic or mitral valve at the time of index stroke; untreated or actively treated bacterial endocarditis at the time of the index stroke; neurosyphilis or other CNS infections; neurosarcoidosis; severe sepsis with hypotension at the time of the index stroke; cerebral vasculitis by angiogram and clinical criteria; post-radiation arteriopathy; left atrial myxoma; major congenital heart disease; and cocaine use in the 48 hours prior to their stroke. This list is based on published proposals for exclusion criteria for genetic studies of ischemic stroke[4] but includes additional exclusions based on the experience of phenotyping a large number of ischemic strokes in young adults.

All participants were asked about their smoking history. Ever smokers were defined as individuals having smoked more than 100 cigarettes in their lifetime.

For this meta-analysis, GEOS contributed a sample of 475 unrelated European-Americans with both phenotypic and genotypic information. All subjects are smokers and report smoking ≥100 cigarettes in their lifetime. The study obtained written informed consent from all participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards.

DNA was derived from whole blood (n=389), mouthwash samples (n=6), cell lines (n=481), and WGA (n=12). Genotyping was performed using the Illumina Omni 1-Quad 1M beadchip. Genotype cleaning included removal of unexpected duplicate samples, samples that were unexpectedly related and gender mismatch samples. The sample call rate ranged from 98.4% to 99.9%. SNPs were required to have a minor allele frequency > 0.01, call rate ≥ 98% and Hardy Weinberg Equilibrium p-value ≥ 0.01. No SNP imputation was performed.

This analysis included the following variables: gender, and age of onset ("How old were you when you first started to smoke cigarettes?").

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Family Health Study and the Women's Epidemiology of Lung Disease Study (KCI-WSU):

Data are from two population-based, case-control studies of lung cancer detailed in a recent publication: the Family Health Study (FHS studies I, II and III) and the Women's Epidemiology of Lung Disease (WELD) Study[1]. Only Caucasian subjects with DNA from sources other than tissue blocks were included in these analyses. All studies were conducted by the same study staff using identical procedures, with cases ascertained through the population-based Metropolitan Detroit Cancer Surveillance System, an NCI-funded SEER registry. Studies differed only in the eligibility of cases, with the FHS focused on never smokers and cases diagnosed before age 50 years and the WELD study focusing on women. Only non small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) histology cases were included in the WELD study. Population-based controls were chosen using random digit dialing methods. All study controls were frequency matched to cases by 5-year age group, sex and race. Institutional Review Board approval was obtained for all studies, and informed consent was obtained from all participants.

Individuals who had smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime were designated as smokers. These subjects were also asked for the average number of cigarettes per day they smoked and the total number of smoking years. Age of first regular smoking was defined as the age at which the individual began smoking cigarettes. KCI-WSU contributed a total of 945 subjects with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

DNA was extracted from whole blood or buccal cells (buccal swab or mouthwash sample). DNA was isolated from blood using a Gentra AutoPure Kit (Qiagen, Valencia, CA), buccal swabs with the BuccalAmp DNA Extraction Kit (Epicentre Technologies, Madison, WI) and mouthwash samples with the Gentra Puregene Kit (Qiagen). TaqMan Genotyping Assays (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used to detect polymorphisms. DNA isolated from buccal cells was pre-amplified in an outer PCR reaction for added sensitivity. Either 25 ng DNA or 1 µl of the outer nest was amplified, with primers designed using Primer Express software (Applied Biosystems), and detected using an AB 7900 Sequence Detection System (Applied Biosystems). For quality control, 5% of the products were sequenced and 10% were directly repeated.

References:

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Lung Health Study (LHS), and LHS-Utah Subsample (LHS-Utah):

The Lung Health Study (LHS) cohort was drawn from a multi-site longitudinal study of COPD sponsored by the Division of Lung Disease of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute[2]. All LHS participants had COPD as determined by pulmonary function testing, and all were smoking at the time of recruitment. All participants were of European descent, and all had smoked more than 100 cigarettes lifetime. Cigarettes per day (CPD)

was based on period of heaviest smoking lifetime. Age of first regular smoking was assessed by asking the subject at what age they became a daily smoker. Study procedures were approved by the local IRB. LHS provided 1943 subjects with both genotypic and phenotypic information.

DNA was isolated from peripheral blood lymphocytes collected by the LHS Study Investigators supported by the NHLBI[2]. SNP genotyping methods were previously described[1] and used either the SNPlex assay (Applied Biosystems) or TaqMan assay (Applied Biosystems). The call rates were 100% in the LHS cohort. SNPs genotyped by both the TaqMan and SNPlex methods in 236 individuals had a concordance rate > 99.7%.

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MD Anderson Lung Cancer (MDACC-LCA):

Study subjects (all self-reported Caucasians and African Americans) from the U.T. M.D. Anderson Cancer Center (MDACC) are derived from a lung cancer case-control study that has been ongoing since 1991[1]. Cases were newly diagnosed, histologically-confirmed patients presenting at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center with the diagnosis of non-small cell lung cancer and who had not previously received treatment other than surgery. Controls were healthy individuals seen for routine care at Kelsey-Seybold Clinics; the largest physician group-practice plan in the Houston Metropolitan area[2]. Controls were frequency matched to cases according to their smoking behavior, age in 5 year categories, ethnicity, and sex. Former smoking controls were further frequency matched to former smoking cases according to the number of years since smoking cessation (in 5 year categories). The study protocols were approved by the Institutional Review Board of the U.T. M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. Informed consent was obtained from all patients. Epidemiologic data including smoking status were collected during an in-person interview using a structured questionnaire. Genomic DNA was extracted from peripheral blood samples using the Human Whole Blood Genomic DNA Extraction Kit (Qiagen, Valencia, CA). Genotypes were generated by the Center for Inherited Disease Research for 317,498 polymorphic tagging SNPs using Illumina HumanHap300 v1.1 BeadChips and the Illumina Infinium II assay[3]. For this meta-analysis, MDACC contributed a sample of 2291 unrelated European-Americans (including 1136 cases and 250 controls). Ever smokers were defined as those who smoked more than 100 cigarettes over their lifetime. Former smokers had quit a year before diagnosis (cases) or interview (controls). Age of first regular smoking was defined as the age at which an individual began to smoke cigarettes. MDACC provided 2289 subjects with both genotypic and phenotypic data.

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MD Anderson Melanoma (MDACC-Melanoma):

This research builds upon an extensive resource of melanoma cases and hospital based controls collected over several years at the U.T. M.D. Anderson Cancer Center. The goal of this research is to identify novel susceptibility and outcome-related genes for melanoma using a systematic genome-wide association-based approach. Our goal is to conduct high-density SNP association and outcome studies. This dbGaP study contains samples from 2000 European ancestry cases and 1000 European ancestry controls using the Illumina OMNI1-Quad SNP chip. As a part of an ongoing R01 project, we have epidemiological data together with candidate gene results for 1000 of the melanoma cases and the controls. With regard to the outcome aspect of our design, as part of our melanoma Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) grant, our MelCore database contains comprehensive, prospectively maintained clinical information from all melanoma patients included in the study cohort, including primary tumor histopathology and staging information, standard and investigational blood tumor markers, details of surgical and systemic therapies, and extensive follow-up information, including time to relapse or recurrence, pattern of recurrence and survival duration. Finally, we intend to collaborate with the GenoMEL collaboration so we can jointly evaluate each other's findings. The goal of our analysis will be to identify novel genetic factors predisposing the development of melanoma, as well as genetic factors controlling melanoma stage at presentation, recurrence and progression.

This study is part of the Gene Environment Association Studies initiative (GENEVA, http://www.genevastudy.org) funded by the trans-NIH Genes, Environment, and Health Initiative (GEI). The overarching goal is to identify novel genetic factors that contribute to melanoma through large-scale genome-wide association studies of 2000 European ancestry cases and 1000 European ancestry controls. Genotyping was performed at the Johns Hopkins University Center for Inherited Disease Research (CIDR). Data cleaning and harmonization were done at the GEI-funded GENEVA Coordinating Center at the University of Washington. Age of first regular use was defined as the age at which an individual became a regular cigarette smoker. MDACC contributed to this meta-analysis, 825 individuals with genotypic and phenotypic information.

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Munich Germany (MUC12SCS; MUC12SCTL; MUCMDCS; MUCMDCTL)

For this meta-analysis, the German sample contributed unrelated European Caucasians (1052 healthy controls and 641 schizophrenia patients for MUCMD, and 235 controls and 421 schizophrenia patients for MUC12S). Healthy unrelated volunteers of German descent (i.e., both parents German) were randomly selected from the general population of Munich, Germany, and contacted by mail. To exclude subjects with central neurological diseases and psychotic disorders or subjects who had first-degree relatives with psychotic disorders, several screenings were conducted before the volunteers were enrolled in the study. First, subjects who responded were screened by phone for the absence of neuropsychiatric disorders. Second, detailed medical and psychiatric histories were assessed for subjects and their first-degree relatives by using a semi-structured interview. Third, if no exclusion criteria were fulfilled, they were invited to a comprehensive interview including the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM-IV (SCID I and SCID II)[1,2] to validate the absence of any lifetime psychotic disorder. Additionally, the Family History Assessment Module[3] was conducted to exclude psychotic disorders among first-degree relatives. Furthermore, a neurological examination was conducted to exclude subjects with current CNS impairment. In the case that the volunteers were older than 60 years, the Mini Mental Status Test[4] was performed to exclude subjects with possible cognitive impairment.

Individuals with schizophrenia were ascertained from the Munich area in Germany. Of the samples MUC12S and MUCMD, 70.1% and 71.0% were of German descent and 29.9% and 30.0% were Caucasian middle Europeans, respectively. (No evidence for ethnic stratification was observed after testing with the software STRUCTURE)[5]. Case participants had a DSM-IV and ICD-10 diagnosis of schizophrenia with the following subtypes (MUC12S/MUCMD): paranoid 78.1%/79.2%, disorganized 16.9%/15.9%, catatonic 0.5%/1.3% and undifferentiated 4.5%/3.6%). Detailed medical and psychiatric histories were collected, including a clinical interview using the SCID, to evaluate lifetime Axis I and II diagnoses. Four physicians and one psychologist rated the SCID interviews, and all measurements were double-rated by a senior researcher. Exclusion criteria included a history of head injury or neurological diseases. All case participants were outpatients or stable inpatients. Further details can be found in previous reports[6].

Smoking behavior was grouped into current, former and never smokers. The number of cigarettes per day (CPD) as well as FTND was assessed for the period of heaviest smoking and for average use. All subjects were smokers and reported smoking 100 cigarettes lifetime. Age of smoking initiation was assessed with the question "I began to smoke at the age of __.". The study obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards.

DNA was obtained from peripheral blood. DNA concentration was adjusted using the PicoGreen quantitation reagent (Invitrogen, Karlsruhe, Germany), and 1 ng was genotyped using the iPLEX assay on the MassARRAY MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer (SEQUENOM, Hamburg, Germany). Genotyping call rates in cases and controls were all >97%. Allele frequencies were similar to CEU sample frequencies. A subsample of

SNPs and DNA was genotyped twice to check for genotyping errors.
For this meta-analysis, MUC12S and MUCMD were each separated into schizophrenic cases (CS) and controls (CTL) prior to running association analyses, because schizophrenic patients are known to have different, heavy patterns of smoking compared to normal controls. Munich Germany provided a total of 2067 subjects with genotypic and phenotypic data.

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National Youth Survey – Family Study (NYSFS; originally "National Youth Survey")

The National Youth Survey began in 1976. At that time 1,725 adolescents between the ages of 11 and 17 years old as well as one of their parents were interviewed. Participants were chosen by a scientific method designed to select individuals who were representative of the national population. It was a sample of households with all children between 11 and 17 within a chosen household recruited. It is a longitudinal study,

with 12 waves of interviews conducted so far. DNA was collected as part of wave 10 interviews[1-3]. Individuals were asked whether they had ever smoked cigarettes regularly (at least once per month). If they answered no or did not respond, they were excluded from the analysis. CPD was defined as the number of cigarettes smoked per day when smoking the most (over their lifetime), reported in the wave 10 interview. Age of first initiation and regular smoking were ascertained from the in-home questionnaire for Wave 10. Educational attainment was derived from questions asked in the Wave 10 questionnaire. Subjects were all adults at the time of the wave 10 interviews. Educational attainment was also derived from questions asked during the Wave 10 interviews.
DNA was collected for 1071 individuals, 20 of whom have mostly missing phenotype information and were thus excluded, so genotypes and phenotypes were used for 1051 individuals. Total recruited was 1725, but there has been a low level of attrition thru time (there is no evidence for any systematic trends in either attrition or DNA collection refusal). After selection for unrelated individuals, 548 smokers were phenotyped/genotyped. All research protocols and consent forms were approved by institutional review boards of the University of Colorado.

DNA was derived from buccal cells. Taqman assays for allelic discrimination (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used to determine SNP genotypes. QC performed on the genotyped sample (by sample and by SNP) excluded individuals with less than 50% genotypes (assumed poor quality DNA sample). All SNPs had greater than 95% genotype calling after exclusion of individuals with low quality DNA samples. All genotypes were called by two independent individuals.

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Nicotine Addiction Genetics Project and Australian Big Sibship Projects (NAG-OZALC; NAG-Finland)

Description of the study

The study participants for the Nicotine Addiction Genetics Project (NAG) were enrolled at two different sites: the Queensland Institute of Medical Research (QIMR) in Australia and the University of Helsinki (UH) in Finland. Families for both the Australian and Finnish arms of the NAG were identified through smoking index cases by use of previously administered interview and/or questionnaire surveys of the community-based Australian and population-based Finnish registers of twins[1,2]. The Finnish arm of the NAG project (NAG-Fin) recruited twin pairs concordant for ever-smoking from the Finnish Twin Cohort, which consists of all Finnish twin pairs born between 1938 and 19573. Families chosen for the Australian arm of the NAG study (NAG-OZALC) were identified from two cohorts of the Australian Twin Panel, which included spouses of the older of these two cohorts. The ancestry of the Australian samples is predominantly Anglo-Celtic or northern European (>90%). We also used data obtained from a third Australian Community-based family study, the Australian Big Sibship (BigSib). The BigSib sample comprises families ascertained through the Australian Twin Panel selected for five or more offspring sharing both biological parents. Families for the BigSib sample were recruited from the same Australian Twin Panel sources as were the NAG Australian families, and phenotypic information was obtained using the same assessment protocol as for the NAG. Clinical data for both Australian and Finnish subjects were collected using a computer-assisted telephone diagnostic interview (CATI), and adaptation of the Semi-Structured Assessment for the Genetics of Alcoholism (SSAGA)[4,5] for telephone administration. The tobacco section of the CATI was derived from the Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI)[6] and incorporated standard FTND7 , DSM-III-R, and DSM-IV8 assessments of nicotine dependence. It also included a detailed history of cigarette and other tobacco use, including quantity and

frequency of use for current, most recent, and heaviest period of use. The measure examined for the purposes of this study was the number of cigarettes smoked per day, during heaviest period of use. In addition age of onset of smoking was asked and educational level assessed on the basis of two questions on level of schooling and additional vocational training. All data-collection procedures were approved by institutional review boards at Washington University (WU), the QIMR, and the Ethics committee of the Hospital District of Helsinki and Uusimaa, including the use of appropriate and approved informed-consent procedures.

Smoking info from the study

For this meta-analysis, NAG/BigSib-Aus combined sample contributed information from a total of 1329 unrelated adult subjects (about 40% women; including 45% from the BigSib sample), 18-82 years of age (mean age: 44 years) at the time of assessment; including 592 who reported smoking 10 or fewer cigarettes, 489 subject who reported smoking 20 to 39, and 248 Australians who reported smoking 40 or more cigarettes during their heaviest period of smoking. Participants gave informed consent for an interview, for providing a blood sample for DNA extraction and cell lines, and for the sharing of their anonymous clinical and genotypic records with scientists outside of the NAG and/or BigSib research teams of investigators.

Analyzed as a separate sample, NAG-Fin contributed information from a total of 733 unrelated adult subjects (37% women); 36-66 years of age (mean age: 54.4 years) at the time of assessment. Participants were born between 1938 and 1965, and most of them (97%) between 1940-1959. Participants with CPD information had smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime. Seventeen per cent of participants (n=121) reported smoking of ≤10 cigarettes, 34% (n=244) of >10 to 20, 32% (n=229) more than >20 to 30, and 18% (n=130) more than 30 CPD. Nine participants did not have CPD information. Age of onset of regular smoking information was from 709 participants ranging from 8 years to 45 years (mean18.1 years, SD 3.9). Thirty five percent of them had started regular smoking at 16 year old or younger. Participants gave informed consent for an interview, for providing a blood sample for DNA extraction, and for the sharing of their anonymous clinical and genotypic records with scientists outside of the NAG research teams of investigators.

How DNA was obtained

Participants gave blood samples at their local health center or laboratory, and blood samples were sent to the National Public Health Institute in Helsinki (currently National Institute for Health and Welfare), Finland. DNA was extracted from blood samples using standard procedures and genotyped using Illumina 670-Quad Custom chip at the Sanger Wellcome Trust Institute.

SNP info

The SNPs included in the analyses, rs1948, rs578776, and rs6495306, all had genotyping success of >95% (0-3 missing genotypes per SNP) and Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium test p-values of 0.13, 0.23, 0.14, 0.77, and 0.12, respectively. The minor (MAF) and major alleles were T (37%) and C; T (30%) and C; T (29%) and C; G (36%) and A; and A (15%) and G, respectively.

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Netherlands Study of Depression and Anxiety (NESDA):

The Netherlands Study of Depression and Anxiety (NESDA) (1) is a multi-centre study designed to examine the long-term course and consequences of depressive and anxiety disorders (http://www.nesda.nl). NESDA includes both individuals with depressive and/or anxiety disorders and controls without psychiatric conditions. Inclusion criteria were age 18-65 years and self-reported western European ancestry, exclusion criteria were not being fluent in Dutch and having a primary diagnosis of another psychiatric condition (psychotic disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, bipolar disorder, or severe substance use disorder). For all participants DNA was isolated from the baseline blood sample (2) (collected between 2004-2007). The study protocol is approved by the Central Ethics Committee of the VU University Medical Center Amsterdam and all participating institutes. Through funding from the fNIH GAIN program (www.fnih.gov/gain), whole genome scan analysis was conducted for 1,859 NESDA (1,702 depressed cases and 157 controls) participants. (3) Perlegen Sciences (Mountain View, CA, USA) performed all genotyping according to strict standard operating procedures. Baseline data at time of DNA collection was used to determine smoking behavior. Age at first regular smoking was defined as the age at which an individual started smoking. Phenotypic and genotypic was available for 1138 subjects.

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Netherlands Twin Register (NTR1, NTR2):

The data come from a large-scale longitudinal study from the Netherlands Twin Register (NTR). The NTR was established in 1987 and contains information about Dutch twins and their families voluntarily taking part in research[1]. The NTR study is approved by the Central Ethics Committee of the VU University Medical Center Amsterdam. Between 2004 and 2008 biological samples (including DNA) were collected[2]. Two subsamples with genotype data were available for the present study: NTR1[3] and NTR2[4]. Longitudinal survey data from 8 waves of data collection (1991-2010) were used to determine smoking behavior[5]. Age of first regular smoking was assessed by asking the subject what age they were when they started smoking regularly. NTR1 and NTR2 contributed a total of 1057 individuals with genotypic and phenotypic data.

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Northern Finland Birth Cohort 1966 (NFBC1966)

All mothers expected to give birth in the two northernmost provinces of Finland, Oulu and Lapland, in 1966 were recruited to the study (n = 12,058 live births)[1]. At the age of 31 years, the cohort members were sent a postal questionnaire in which their smoking habits were inquired and N=8,767 (75%) returned it. Cohort members still living in the original target or capital area were also invited to a 31-year clinical examination and 6,033 (71%) participated. At this time, blood samples were collected of which DNA was extracted. Educational attainment was obtained from the Educational register of Statistics Finland in 1997. All participants included in this study gave written informed consent. The University of Oulu Ethics committee has approved the study. DNA was extracted from blood using standard methods. Genome-wide genotyping was performed at the Broad Institute Biological Sample Repository in approximately 5500 participants with available DNA with the Illumina HumanCNV370DUO Analysis BeadChip[2].

Information on smoking behavior were collected at age 31 via postal questionnaire[4]. Participants were asked: 1. if they have ever smoked in their life, 2. if they have ever been smoking regularly (i.e. smoking at least one cigarette every day for at least one year), 3. how many cigarettes per day they have been smoking. Of the genotyped individuals 3,067 had smoked in their life and 1,896 had never smoked. Never smokers were excluded from the current analysis. The continuous smoking measured as cigarettes per day (CPD) was available for 3,025 individuals having mean CPD of 12.4 (7.9). The sex distribution in the NFBC1966 study sample was 49.7 % males (N=1,523) and 50.3 % females (N=1,544). Ever smokers were asked at what age they started smoking (age of initiation of smoking). This variable was available for 2,911 participants. Participants were also asked for how many years they have been smoking regularly. Considering that all individuals have been interviewed at 31 years, for current smokers, age at onset of regular smoking was indirectly computed by subtracting number of years they have been smoking regularly from current age (31 years). Individuals who were not current smokers but who have been regular smokers previously were asked at what age they quit smoking. For these individuals age at onset of regular smoking was indirectly computed by subtracting numbers of years they have been smoking regularly from the age at which they quit smoking. Age at onset of regular smoking was available for 2,245 participants.

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Nurses' Health Study (NHS BrCa, NHS CHD, NHS T2D):

The three analysis samples that contribute to this meta-analysis were derived from case-control cohort studies nested within two multi-site U.S. cohort studies, the Nurses' Health Study (NHS). The NHS cohort was initiated in 1976 across 11 states with 121,700 female registered nurses aged 30-55. In addition, blood samples were collected between 1989 and 1990 in the NHS.

Nested case-control cohort studies were conducted for Type 2 diabetes (T2D), cardiovascular disease (CHD), and breast cancer (BrCa). In the T2D study, controls were defined to be those free of diabetes at the time of diagnosis of the case, and were initially matched on year of birth, month of blood collection, and fasting status, with matched-pairs subsequently broken because not all subjects gave informed consent for the posting of their data on dbGaP[1]. In the CHD study, controls were randomly selected from participants who provided blood samples and did not experience CHD, with two controls for every case. Controls were matched on age, smoking, and month of blood draw. In the KS study, participants with a history of kidney stones and randomly selected controls were identified in two cycles from those with no history of cancer (cycles 1 and 2) or cardiovascular disease (cycle 1) who met age eligibility requirements (cycle 1: HPFS<71; NHS<66; cycle 2: <76)[2] . Finally, in the BrCa study, cases and controls were limited to post-menopausal women, who were not diagnosed with breast cancer during follow up. Controls were postmenopausal women matched with cases by age and post-menopausal hormone use at blood draw[3]. All studies from which the samples are derived obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards. Current and former smokers were selected for analysis of the cigarettes-per day trait. The NHS samples contributed 1646 (NHS-T2D), 748 (NHS-CHD), and 1210 (NHS-BrCa) smokers. Cigarettes-per-day was measured using information from the baseline questionnaire and follow-up questionnaires through 2002, or the latest follow-up questionnaire available. The cigarettes-per-day trait reflects the average number of cigarettes per day over the period of observation, or pack-years/smoking duration. In the NHS samples, pack-years was calculated based on write-in values for cigarettes-per-day through 1982 and a categorical reporting of cigarettes-per-day after 1982[4]. Age of first regular smoking was determined by asking the subject at which age they began smoking regularly. Genotypic and phenotypic information was available for a total of 3512 individuals.

In all samples, DNA was derived from white blood cells. Analysis samples were restricted to subjects of European ancestry, and genotyping used the Affymetrix 6.0 (T2D and CHD studies), the Illumina 610Q (KS studies), and the Illumina 550 (BrCa study) platforms. Although exact protocols varied by sample, at a minimum DNA samples that did not meet a 90% completion threshold, and SNPs with low call rates (<90%), were dropped. Analyses based on principal components were conducted to assess self-reported race, and any self-reported "white" samples that had substantial similarity to non-European reference samples (either the HapMap YRI or CHB+JPT samples) were excluded.

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The Study of Health in Pomerania (SHIP)

The Study of Health in Pomerania (SHIP) is a longitudinal, population-based survey from West Pomerania, Germany[1,2]. Data from the baseline cohort (n=4308) were used for this study. N=2458 Caucasian subjects were included into the present analyses (age $\geq$ 25, ever smoker). The study obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards.

Blood samples are obtained according to standardized procedures. Aliquots of blood samples are immediately placed on ice. The SHIP laboratories take part in the official German external quality proficiency testing programs. All assays are calibrated against the international reference preparations, whenever these are available. A bank of dummy samples allows the standardization of different laboratory methods. Serum, EDTA and citrate plasma, DNA and urine are stored at -80°C in a biobank.[2]

The SHIP samples were genotyped using the Affymetrix Human SNP Array 6.0. Hybridisation of genomic DNA was done in accordance with the manufacturer's standard recommendations. The genetic data analysis workflow was created using the Software InforSense. Genetic data were stored using the database Caché (InterSystems). Genotypes were determined using the Birdseed2 clustering algorithm.
For quality control purposes, several control samples where added. On the chip level, only subjects with a genotyping rate on QC probesets (QC callrate) of at least 86% were included. Finally, all arrays had a sample CallRate > 92%. Imputation of genotypes was performed with the software IMPUTE v0.5.0 based on HapMap II CEU reference panel.

This analysis included the following variables: gender, age, cigarettes per day ("How many cigarettes on average do you smoke per day")[3], age of onset ("How old were you started smoking regularly?"), educational attainment ("What is the highest educational degree or diploma you hold?").

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The Smoking in Families study (SMOFAM)

The Smoking in Families study (DA03706, Hyman Hops, PI, Oregon Research Institute) is a longitudinal, repeated measures cohort study of environmental and psychosocial risk factors for adolescent and young adult substance use, including tobacco use and dependence, initiated in 1984. Subjects were recruited through advertisements in traditional media, and flyers distributed at middle and high schools in four mid-sized and small urban and rural Pacific Northwest cities with populations ranging from 30,000 to 175,000. The original study recruited 763 families, with at least one adolescent age 11 or older. Families with smoking parents and/or adolescents were of special interest since the adolescents were at risk for tobacco and other substance use. Within each family one adolescent was designated as the proband if s/he had previously tried a substance. Each proband had to have at least one parent agree to participate. An attempt was made to encourage both parents and all sibs over the age of 11 to participate. The only other requirement was that all participants needed to be able to read basic level English. Repeated annual assessment of probands facilitated characterization of longitudinal phenotypes for tobacco use, including the acquisition and maintenance of smoking, as well as many potential psychosocial and environmental predictors of substance (Hops 2000). For an integrated research project study the environmental, genetic and metabolic determinants of tobacco use, probands and family members were recruited from those SMOFAM families where the proband had completed at least seven of the first ten assessments on tobacco use and elected to provide a blood sample for DNA analysis. Probands and each first degree relative completed a family history of tobacco uses than assessed: sex, age, relationship (biological or nonbiological; full-, half-, or nonbiological sibling), vital status, lifetime “ever” smoking of 100 cigarettes, ever regular use of cigars, pipes, or smokeless tobacco, age at initiation of daily cigarette smoking, average number of cigarettes smoked per day when smoking, ever tried to quit, and success in permanent quitting (Swan, Hudmon et al. 2003). For this meta-analysis, SMOFAM contributed a sample of 590 European-Americans where 421 (74%) are ever-smokers (100 cigarettes lifetime). The study obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the appropriate institutional review boards. This analysis included the following variables: gender (54.1% n=319) female; cigarettes per day ("Think about the year in your life when you smoked most. During that time, about how many cigarettes did you usually have per day?"), 31.6%, 46.7%, 11.8% and 9.9% for CPD=0, 1, 2, 3, respectively; age of onset ("How old were you the very first time you smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of 2 months?"), mean=17.8 years, SD=4.6; educational attainment ("What is the highest educational degree or diploma you hold?"), 0=6.6%; 1=22.7%; 2=41.0%; 3=29.7% for no degree, basic degree, vocational or assocates degree, and academic college or university degree, respectively. DNA was extracted from whole blood using standard procedures (Miller, Dykes et al. 1988). Genotyping of the DNA samples was carried out using Illumina GoldenGate technology (Conti, Lee et al. 2008). A multi-step genotype quality control procedure was performed (Conti, Lee et al. 2008; Bergen, Conti et al. 2009).

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Swedish Twin Registry (STR)

The Swedish Twin Registry (STR) data used in the current study were collected from the birth cohorts 1911-1958 that participated in the Screening Across the Lifespan Twin study (SALT) interview in 1998–2002, targeting all twins-pairs born 1958 or earlier[2]. For same-sex twin pairs born 1926-1958 data was available also from a questionnaires sent out in the beginning of 1970's (Q73). In both surveys participants were asked about the age they began smoking regularly, where available we used responses from the Q73 study supplementing these with responses from the SALT study in cases where Q73 data were not available.

Genotyping was conducted between December 2010 and May 2011, using samples from 9,836 Swedish Twins that had passed initial, lab-based quality controls. Samples were genotyped on the SNP&SEQ Technology Platform, Uppsala, using the Illumina HumanOmniExpress BeadChip genotyping platform. A total of 79,893 SNPs were omitted because their minor allele frequency was lower than 0.01; 3,071 markers were excluded because they failed a test of Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium at $p < 10–7$; and 3,922 SNPs were dropped because of a missingness greater than 3%[1,2].

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The Utah Genetics of Addiction Project (Utah)

The Utah Genetics of Addiction Project contributed two cohorts (LHS and Utah) from a study of genetic risk markers for nicotine dependence and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD)[1141]. The UT cohort was made up of respondents to community advertising for persons who had smoked more than 100 cigarettes lifetime plus a subset of the Lung Health Study (LHS) participants originally recruited in Utah; these Utah LHS participants were excluded from the LHS cohort. UT participants were not drawn from a psychiatric treatment population, and no medical or behavioral treatments were offered as part of the study. UT volunteers were not excluded simply because they had a lifetime diagnosis of psychosis or Bipolar Disorder, but they were excluded if their current mental status made it impossible for them to complete the questionnaires or interviews. Pulmonary function testing determined 62% of the UT cohort had COPD. Of UT participants, 43% had not smoked for at least 2 years prior to participation in the study. All UT participants were of European descent, and all had smoked more than 100 cigarettes lifetime. Age of smoking initiation was assessed with the question "How old were you the first time you tried a cigarette?" while age of first regular smoking was defined by asking "How old were you when you started smoking cigarettes daily?". Utah contributed a total of 484 subjects with phenotypic and genotypic data. Study procedures were approved by the University of Utah IRB.

DNA was isolated from peripheral blood lymphocytes collected in Salt Lake City, UT (UT cohort). SNP genotyping methods were previously described[1] and used either the SNPlex assay (Applied Biosystems) or TaqMan assay (Applied Biosystems). The call rate was 99.9%; and SNPs genotyped by both the TaqMan and SNPlex methods in 236 individuals had a concordance rate > 99.7%.

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Virginia Adult Twin Study of Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorder (VA-twin)

The VA-Twins were selected from the Virginia Adult Twin Study of Psychiatric and Substance Use Disorder, which was a population-based epidemiology study. Tobacco smoking and nicotine dependence were assessed by the Fagerström Tolerance Questionnaire (FTQ) and/or Fagerström Test for Nicotine Dependence (FTND) during the time of heaviest lifetime nicotine use. In this study, only regular smokers (defined as those who used at some point in their lives an average of at least seven cigarettes per week for a minimum of four weeks) were included (N = 2388). Age of initiation was defined at the age at which an individual smoke their first cigarette. Age of first regular use was the time when that individual began smoking tobacco regularly. One subject from each twin pair was selected, and all subjects were of Caucasian ancestry. VA-twin contributed a total of 1960

individuals with genotypic and phenotypic information. The study obtained informed consent from participants and approval from the institutional review board of Virginia Commonwealth University. DNA was extracted from buccal brushes. Genotyping was performed with the TaqMan genotyping method. To ensure the quality of genotyping, negative control samples were included in each plate. Genotypes were scored using a semi-automated protocol.

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Welcome Trust Case-Control Consortium (WTCCC) datasets: WTCCC-LOLIPOP, WTCCC-HT, WTCCC-CHD

LOLIPOP[1]: LOLIPOP is an ongoing population based study of ~30 000 Inc
and women recruited from the lists of 58 general practitioners in west London. Assessment of participants was performed by a trained nurse using a standard protocol including questions on medical history, family history, cardiovascular risk factors, alcohol intake, physical activity and drug history (verified from the practice computerised records). Subsequently 2293 Indian Asian and European white subjects, aged 35–74 years and free from clinical CVD, were selected at random and enrolled into the LOLIPOP atherosclerosis cohort substudy. Participants were defined as Indian Asian if all four grandparents were born in the Indian subcontinent (India, Pakistan or Bangladesh) and European white if all four grandparents were born in northern Europe. Age of tobacco initiation was determined by asking the subjects as what age they started smoking.

HT[2]: The WTCCC-HT collection comprised severely hypertensive probands ascertained from families with multiple affected members in the UK as part of the MRC funded BRIGHT study[3]. Hypertensive cases had to have a diagnosis of hypertension prior to 50 years, and blood pressure recordings ≥ 150/100mmHg for a single reading or ≥ 145/95mmHg for 3 consecutive readings on a single visit. Exclusion criteria included BMI>35, presence of diabetes, secondary hypertension or a co-existing illness. As part of taking the medical history, a series of questions on smoking were asked which included the following: Do you smoke cigarettes now, if yes, what is the type and how many per day? Did you smoke previously, How many cigarettes did you smoke previously? What age did you start smoking.

CHD[2]: These studies included individuals with CAD from the Wellcome Trust Case Control Consortium Study.

Age of first regular smoking was determined by asking how old a subject was the very first time they smoked cigarettes every day or nearly every day for a period of two months. In total, WTCCC contributed 2628 subjects with both phenotypic and genotypic data.

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Yale Genetics of Cocaine Dependence, Genetics of Opioid Dependence and Genetics of Alcohol Dependence (YALE)

Subjects were recruited from substance abuse treatment centers and through advertisements at the University of Connecticut Health Center, Yale University School of Medicine, the Medical University of South Carolina, the University of Pennsylvania, and McLean Hospital (Harvard Medical School). The sample was recruited for substance abuse outcomes, including cocaine, opioid, alcohol, and nicotine dependence. Individuals were excluded if diagnosed with Axis I major psychotic illness (e.g., schizophrenia or schizoaffective disorder). The study protocol was approved by the institutional review board at each clinical site. After complete description of the study to the subjects, written informed content was obtained. Genetic studies of substance dependence disorders and related traits in a subset of this sample have been published[1-3].

Subjects were interviewed using an electronic version of the Semi-Structured Assessment for Drug Dependence and Alcoholism (SSADDA)[4,5] to derive diagnoses for lifetime nicotine, cocaine, opioid, and alcohol dependence according to DSM-IV criteria. The age of first regular smoking phenotype was determined by two questions. "When you smoked regularly, how many days per week did you usually smoke cigarettes. How old were you the first time you smoked cigarettes at that rate? The sample of unrelated individuals contains 942 individuals of European ancestry with genotype and phenotype data. All are smokers.
DNA was primarily extracted from immortalized cell lines or blood samples, with a small number from saliva. SNP genotyping was performed at Yale University using a closed-tube fluorescent TaqMan 5'-nuclease allelic discrimination assay ordered as “assays-on-demand” (Applied Biosystems Inc., Foster City, CA). Fluorescence plate reads and genotype calls were made using ABI 7900 Sequence Detection Systems. Two nanograms of genomic DNA were PCR amplified in 384-well plates using a 2-µl reaction volume. The insertion/deletion marker was genotyped by PCR amplification followed by agarose gel size fractionation. At least two blank wells and two duplicate samples (for the purposes of cross-run confirmation of genotype assignment) were included in each 96-well plate. At least 8% of genotypes were repeated for quality control. The results were compared for verification. Results for 28 individuals for which the genotyping completely failed on the 3 SNPs were removed from analysis.

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Young Finns Study (YFS):

The Cardiovascular Risk in Young Finns (YFS) is a population-based follow up-study started in 1980[1]. The main aim of the YFS is to determine the contribution made by childhood lifestyle, biological and psychological measures to the risk of cardiovascular diseases in adulthood. In 1980, over 3,500 children and adolescents all around Finland participated in the baseline study. The follow-up studies have been conducted mainly with 3-year intervals. The latest 27-year follow-up study was conducted in 2007 (ages 30-45 years) with 2,204 participants.

Age of onset of regular smoking and cigarettes per day at current moment (year 2007) or before quitting were assessed with a questionnaire. Smoking was considered to be regular when it had lasted at least one year. There were 694 smokers with genotype data available for analysis.

All subjects gave their written informed consent in 2007 and the study was approved by local ethics committees of the participating universities.

Genomic DNA was extracted from peripheral blood leukocytes using a commercially available kit and Qiagen BioRobot M48 Workstation according to the manufacturer's instructions (Qiagen, Hilden, Germany).

Genotyping was done for 2,556 samples using custom build Illumina Human 670k BeadChip at Welcome Trust Sanger Institute. Genotypes were called using Illuminus clustering algorithm[2]. Samples and SNPs with call rate < 0.95 and SNPs with MAF < 0.01 and HWE p-value < 1e-6 were filtered out. Quality control procedure has been described in detail elsewhere [3]. Genotype imputation was performed using MACH 1.0 and HapMap II CEU (release 22) samples as reference. After quality control and imputation there were 2,442 samples, 546,677 genotyped and 2,543,887 imputed SNPs available for analysis.

This analysis included the following variables: birth year, gender, cigarettes per day ("How many self rolled/factory made cigarettes do you currently smoke or have smoked before quitting?"), and age of onset ("How old were you when you started smoking regularly?").

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