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**Title: A cross-sectional correlation study on knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of waterpipe tobacco smoking (WTS) used among Chinese university students in Hong Kong**

### **ABSTRACT**

Mounting evidence has reflected a global spread of Waterpipe Tobacco Smoking (WTS) among university students. Yet, there are still many disparities in the patterns on the adoption of WTS regarding different attributes including knowledge, attitudes, behaviour and other social factors. Given that WTS in Hong Kong might be still in an early stage of epidemic, little is known about knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of Chinese University students about WTS in Hong Kong. Moreover, investigation of foreign studies could not be applied because of the limitation of different geographical regions with varied community population. Thus, conducting a research focusing on examining the level of and relationship between knowledge, attitudes and behaviour of WTS among university students in Hong Kong is crucial.

A cross-sectional correlational study was conducted. 247 Chinese WTS users who were studying in one of the ten universities in Hong Kong were recruited conveniently to complete the self-administered questionnaire which was developed by Fevrier, Nabors, Vidourek and King (2018) at a single time point for assessing the level of behaviour, attitudes and knowledge towards WTS. After analyzing through the Statistical Package for Social Sciences version 22, the results showed that there was not only a significant difference in various personal and household income levels and behaviour of WTS among Chinese students in Hong Kong. The importance of building accurate attitude towards behaviour of WTS was stressed through the findings in order to decrease the frequency of using WTS. Several recommendations for modifying the attitudes towards WTS were provided to the educational institutions and the government.