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COMMIT MONOGRAPH DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

This represents the sixth volume in the smoking and tobacco control monograph series. The compilation process for this volume was slightly different from those generally followed in the past.

In 1993, the STCP Coordinator and COMMIT Program Director presented a concept for the volume to the COMMIT Printing and Publications Committee (P & P). The committee was established as one of several mechanisms to help prioritize manuscripts generated from the trial and to develop a process for coordinating and accessing trialwide data. In addition to offering helpful suggestions for the content and overall approach to the volume, the committee asked Dr. Beti Thompson to serve as one of the volume's scientific editors. In addition to Dr. Thompson, editors included Dr. David M. Burns and Mr. William R. Lynn.

STCP staff members, in consultation with the volume's scientific editors, developed a detailed outline for the volume along with a list of potential authors who represented COMMIT Principal Investigators and COMMIT field staff. The inclusion of the latter was critical given the primary purpose of the volume was to document the COMMIT intervention field experience—both positive and negative. Although individual chapters were generally written by a COMMIT Principal Investigator, the experience of the COMMIT field staff members formed the basis of what occurred at the community level. This hands-on experience was documented by COMMIT's extensive

collection of program records and case studies. A meeting of authors and editors was held to help guide the effort, answer questions, develop a working outline, and make writing assignments. Several iterations of each chapter were usually necessary before a final draft was submitted to NCI.

Once a “final” draft of the entire volume was completed, NCI sent copies to a small group of experts who were asked to critically review the volume. These reviewers, acknowledged above, were chosen for their specific knowledge and expertise in community-based health programs. Comments received from these individuals were sent to the scientific editors for their consideration and possible integration into the volume.

This monograph, *Community-Based Interventions for Smokers: The COMMIT Field Experience*, is the work of dozens of individuals—STCP trial investigators and staff, smoking control experts, and outside scientists and experts. The monograph is organized into 14 separate chapters within 3 sections as laid out in the “Contents,” which immediately follows.