

**CHEMICAL COMPONENTS IN MAINSTREAM SMOKE OF CIGARETTES
PRODUCED IN GREECE: A COMPARATIVE STUDY**

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ABSTRACT

A comparative study of the chemical composition of major brands of cigarettes produced in Greece has been conducted. The concentrations of tar, nicotine and cadmium in TPM, as well as the concentration of CO were determined in the mainstream smoke of 32 cigarette brands. In addition, the concentration of Cd in the tobacco of cigarettes was also measured and the transfer rate of Cd from tobacco to smoke was calculated. Low levels of Cd were found in the tobacco of most brands of cigarettes (94-572 ng/cig) resulting thus in low Cd. concentrations in TPM (2-55 ng/cig). The transfer rates of Cd from cigarette tobacco to TPM ranged from 2% (ultra light cigarettes). Relationships between the measured parameters were investigated by correlation and factor analysis.