

Martin Raw – Academic and Professional Obituary

Martin was awarded a BA in psychology and physiology by Oxford University in 1972 and then an MPhil in Clinical Psychology at the Institute of Psychiatry in London in 1974. Martin began his post-doctoral career at the Institute of Psychiatry's Addiction Research Unit in the mid 1970s, working with Professor Michael A. H. Russell in charge of its Smokers' Clinic. In 1982 he co-authored the first clinical trial showing that nicotine gum was effective in helping people to stop smoking. He was awarded his PhD in 1985.

From 1989 to 1995 Martin was Deputy Editor of the scientific journal, *Addiction*. He then became a freelance consultant. During this time he worked with the WHO, the UK government, the BMA, and several other governmental and non-governmental organisations. He also published several books including 'Clearing the Air (London, BMA & WHO, 1990) and a self-help book for smokers in 2000. In the 1990s he also co-wrote several articles about tobacco smuggling, the European Common Agricultural Policy, tobacco and EU subsidies. The latter paper revealed economic inefficiency and fraud and the European Court of Auditors used this paper in their report on EU tobacco subsidies which were eventually abolished in 2005.

Foremost among Martin's achievements and legacies was England's first evidence-based guidelines on how to treat tobacco dependence in 1998, which resulted in the creation of the first national network of smoking cessation services in 1999. These services continue to the present day and have been an inspiration to many other countries.

From 2000, Martin founded and became Director of the Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) website: www.treatobacco.net. The site was a repository for evidence on tobacco dependent treatment and presented independent, evidence-based information on the treatment of tobacco dependence in 11 languages; the site ran until 2020. During this time, he published several reports and academic papers on the global status of tobacco dependence and also collaborated on the Tobacco Control Scale, measuring tobacco control implementation in Europe.

In 2010 Martin led, on behalf of the UK government, the writing of guidelines on Article 14 (tobacco dependence and cessation) of the UN health treaty, the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) by a working group of 36 countries. With Uruguay, another Party to the FCTC, Martin presented them to the Fourth Conference of the Parties (COP) to the FCTC in 2010, which then adopted them. They represent official policy on tobacco dependence treatment for the 183 Parties to the Convention.

In 2015, Martin created the International Centre for Tobacco Cessation for which he was Director. His work in the Centre preparing country situation analyses and tools to support treatment implementation, helped countries around the world to improve their tobacco cessation treatment systems, working in countries such as New Zealand, Uruguay, Bolivia Mexico, Turkey, Tunisia and South Africa.

In recognition of his many contributions to public health, Martin Raw was awarded the American Cancer Society (ACS) 2012 Luther Terry Award for Outstanding Individual Leadership and in 2017 the Society for Research in Nicotine and Tobacco (SRNT) 2017 John Slade Award, which honours SRNT members who have made outstanding contributions to

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public health and tobacco control through science-based public policy and public advocacy. At the time of his death, he was a visiting professor at New York University, School of Global Public Health.

Martin's legacy is incalculable, but his dedicated research, policy and practice development and advocacy, over a 50 year time span have doubtless contributed to saving hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of lives worldwide.