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49
50 **Word Count:** 3498

51 **Abstract:** 250

52 **What this paper adds:** 204

53 **Tables:** 3

54

55 **Figures:** 2

56

57 **References:** 65

58 **What this paper adds:**

59 What is already known on this subject?

- 60 • Graphic warning labels (GWLs) on cigarette packaging have been implemented in 120+
61 countries and jurisdictions, but not in the United States.
62 • GWLs can introduce negative affect when they remind smokers of the health consequences
63 of smoking.

64

65 What important gaps in knowledge exist on this topic?

- 66 • There has been no systematic examination of the range of affect cigarette packaging elicits
67 among current smokers.
68 • A randomized trial comparing packaging designed to elicit affect in a real-world setting is
69 needed to elucidate how valenced packaging designs influence cognitions and behavior.

70

71 What this study adds?

- 72 • Current US branded cigarette packaging was associated with moderate positive affect and
73 feelings of trust and joy, an effect that was amplified when viewed immediately after
74 exposure to GWLs.
75 • Removing current branding from packs (blank packs) was associated with lower positive
76 affect than that associated with US branded packs.
77 • Handling 3 examples of Australian-style plain packaging induced a range of moderate to
78 severe negative affect and provoked feelings of disgust, fear, anger, and sadness.
79 • US packaging, blank packaging, and Australian-style GWL packaging elicit the range of
80 affect needed to explore the role of differentially valenced packaging on smokers' cognitions
81 and behavior in a real-world randomized trial.

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Abstract

Objective: To identify whether three types of cigarette pack designs (Graphic Warning Label [GWL] packs, Blank packs, Current US packs) differentially elicit the type of affect necessary to study how packaging influences cognitions and behavior among US smokers.

Design: During one-on-one meetings, 324 daily smokers from San Diego, California were asked to handle a randomized presentation of packs (3 GWLs, 1 Blank, and 1 US) and “Think Aloud” their reactions as they examined each design. Participant thoughts were recorded and transcribed. Six trained coders scored these transcriptions on a 7-point reactivity scale (-3 to +3) and natural language processing software quantified the text for speech polarity (-1 to +1) and emotive word frequency.

Results: Reactivity scores had excellent inter-rater reliability (agreement $\geq 86\%$; ICC $\geq .89$) and were correlated with speech polarity (ρ 's=.21-.37, p -values $<.001$). When considering their own US pack, approximately two-thirds of smokers had a low (31.5%) to medium (34.6%) positive response (reactivity=1.29; polarity=0.14) with expressed feelings of joy and trust. Blank packaging prompted a largely (65.4%) neutral response (reactivity=0.03; polarity=0.00). The gangrenous foot GWL provoked mostly medium (46.9%) to high (48.1%) negative responses (reactivity=-2.44; polarity=-0.20), followed by neonatal baby (reactivity=-1.85; polarity = -0.10) and throat cancer (reactivity=-1.76; polarity=-0.08) warnings. GWLs varied in their elicitation of disgust, anger, fear, and sadness.

102 **Conclusion:** Initial reactions to three GWL packs, a blank pack, and smokers' current US pack
103 reflected the targeted range of positive, neutral, or negative affect enabling tests of the role of
104 packaging on smoking cognitions and behavior in a real-world randomized trial.

105 **Introduction**

106 Cigarette packaging offers a point-of-use marketing opportunity to influence both a
107 smoker's behavior and the perceptions of observers, particularly young people.¹⁻³ Branded
108 marketing on cigarette packages is associated with positive affect that supports the decision to
109 smoke another cigarette.⁴⁻⁶ Completely removing industry marketing from the packaging may not
110 be sufficient to counteract positive affect⁷ and inhibit incentive salience attribution.^{8,9} Graphic
111 warning labels (GWLs) of the health consequences of smoking aim to introduce negative affect
112 with the goal of having the smoker reconsider the decision to smoke. As of January 2021, 127
113 countries have mandated GWLs on all cigarette packaging,¹⁰ and 17 countries have mandated
114 plain packaging pioneered by Australia,¹¹ which includes removal of all industry branding as
115 well as GWLs on 75% of the pack.^{12,13} The United States is the only high income country that
116 has not yet mandated GWLs on cigarette packs.

117 While there have been multiple studies showing that GWL packaging is associated with
118 negative affect,¹⁴⁻¹⁹ the valid measurement of affective response to emotion-evocative stimuli is
119 complicated, frequently requiring information on the response to the targeted product when
120 presented without the emotive stimulus.²⁰ The GWL literature mainly use brief self-report paper
121 and pencil measures of affect resulting in a simple quantitative scale. Such a measure is best
122 when complemented by further research using observation methods that add rich context.²¹

123 The type of affect that cigarette packaging might induce is thought to be a minor
124 “emotional episode”.²² Viewing a GWL package may elicit a minor positive or negative emotion
125 that would not be strong enough to elicit any major physiological activation (such as fight or
126 flight response), but is enough to have individuals think about their decision to smoke.²³ People
127 are known to use emotive words to express the affect they feel when reacting to such an episode
128 and the act of describing their response often helps them regulate their emotions.²⁴ The “think
129 aloud” technique²⁵ poses a task to participants, such as to explore a pack, and asks them to
130 express their thoughts and feelings as they undertake the exploration. This approach elicits
131 verbalized spontaneous thoughts about the pack presented, that is often influenced by cognitions
132 and emotions from previous experiences with the product.²⁶ This approach is most fruitful when
133 different packaging options are explored-compared and particularly when the overlearned
134 response to their usual pack is explored after they have been challenged with a pack with
135 negative emotive stimuli.²⁷ When this observational methodology with multiple pack options is
136 paired with multi-method measurement²⁸ of the responses, it measures immediate reactivity, as
137 opposed to paper-pencil measures²⁹ which may promote evaluative reactions. We recorded and
138 transcribed the “think aloud” when handling 5 different packaging options: GWL packs (3
139 different plain package choices), blank pack (devoid of both marketing and GWL imaging) and
140 their usual pack after exposure to at least one GWL pack. After training, we used 6 coders to
141 review the transcript and classify the immediate reactivity to each pack on a 7-point scale. We
142 validated these coder classifications, by applying natural language processing to each transcript
143 to identify the polarity of the speech used (i.e., positive, neutral, or negative words used) and
144 characterize the frequency and types of emotional phrases uttered. All participants in this study
145 were enrolled in a randomized trial where they received 3 months real world experience with

146 their cigarettes repackaged into plain packs, blank packs or maintained their usual pack. While
147 we hypothesize that the cognitive and behavioral responses in the trial will be determined by the
148 immediate reactivity that the participants had to each of the study packs, this paper established
149 and validates the measure.

150 **Methods**

151 **Study Population:** This study uses cross-sectional data collected during the initial in-
152 person visit (V1) for the CASA randomized trial of the effects cigarette packaging on smoking
153 cognitions and behavior.³⁰ Volunteer daily smokers, aged 21-65 years from San Diego County,
154 California, were enrolled using community advertising. All participants signed an informed
155 consent (overseen by Institutional Review Boards at UC San Diego and Cal State San Marcos),
156 completed questionnaires, and followed a protocol to think aloud their reactions as they explored
157 study cigarette packaging.

158 **Pack Handling Task:** During V1, participants were handed one pack at a time and asked
159 to verbalize what thoughts came to their mind as they explored each side of each pack. For each
160 pack, verbalizations were timed, recorded, and transcribed. There were 5 study packs (**eFigure**
161 **1**) each labelled with the participant's brand and variant: three GWL plain packs; one blank pack
162 (devoid of all marketing and messaging); and their current US pack. In a pre-test³⁰, we selected 3
163 of 8 plain pack images licensed from the Commonwealth of Australia using negative affect
164 scores from the Positive and Negative Affect Scale.³¹ To ensure that the "think aloud" response
165 for their usual pack was more than overlearned responses, we required exposure to their own
166 pack to be conditioned on exposure to at least one GWL plain pack. GWL packs were

167 randomized to the 1st, 3rd, or 5th presentation and the blank pack and US pack to the 2nd or 4th
168 presentation.

169 **Coding Reactivity to Study Packaging:** Using a multi-method qualitative approach,^{28, 32}
170 two coders in consort with an anthropologist (SH) developed a coding manual³³ for a 7-point
171 affect scale (high, medium, low for both negative and positive reactivity as well as a central
172 neutral category; **Table 1**) using a training set of 30 transcriptions. Four additional coders were
173 trained using this set until group concordance (± 1) was reached on 80% of transcriptions. In
174 total, six coders used the coding manual to independently rate each transcription for each pack
175 The coders met weekly to discuss their scores and resolve instances of coding discordance. High
176 reactivity was indicated by use of highly emotional words or amplified moderately emotional
177 words that suggested a somewhat visceral reaction to the packaging. If moderately emotional
178 words or highly emotional words were used and de-amplified (e.g., “*somewhat* disgusting”) or
179 emotional statements accompanied by qualifications (e.g., “that’s disgusting but *it would not stop*
180 *me from smoking*”), that indicated medium reactivity. A low level was a mild reaction followed
181 by a rationalization. Neutral reactivity was when no emotional or reactive language was uttered.
182 For each pack, reactivity scores were averaged, and categorical reactivity scores generated by
183 rounding mean scores to their nearest integer.

184 **Natural Language Processing of Initial Reactivity:** Using R version 4.0.3 with the
185 ‘SentimentR’ package,³⁴ we conducted natural language processing of the transcribed speech
186 from the pack handling task to quantify the number of words uttered and polarity of word choice.
187 Using the Jockers–Rinker sentiment lexicon of 11,710 polarized words,³⁵ sentences were
188 classified according to their overall polarity (e.g., the degree to which the speech and its

189 linguistic modifiers had a positive, neutral, or negative valence; **eTable 1**). To account for
190 extreme negative words occurring more commonly in natural language,³⁶ polarity scores were
191 scaled from -1 to +1 using a general rescaling function.³⁴ Linguistic modifiers were accounted for
192 by examining the four words following, and two words preceding, each polarized word and
193 tagged as one of the following: neutral, negators (flip the \pm polarity sign of a word, e.g., “I do *not*
194 like it”), amplifiers or de-amplifiers (increase or decrease the impact of a word by multiplying
195 polarity scores using standard preset weights.³⁵, e.g., “I *really* like it. I *hardly* like it”), or
196 conjunctions (overrule previous clauses, e.g. “I like it *but it’s not worth it*”). The sentiment
197 lexicon was augmented to neutralize polarized words that had different connotations in our study
198 (e.g., baby, child, surgeon). Sentence-level polarity scores were averaged to generate composite
199 polarity scores per participant per pack. The prototypical emotions of fear, disgust, anger,
200 sadness, anticipation, trust, joy, and surprise³⁷ were explored using ‘SentimentR’s’ emotion
201 function and the NRC Hashtag Emotion Lexicon look-up of 8265 emotion terms.^{38,39} The rate of
202 emotion expressed was evaluated as the number emotional words uttered relative to the total
203 number of words spoken, with scores ranging between 0 (no emotional utterances) and 1 (all
204 emotional utterances).

205 **Study Covariates:** Sociodemographics (age, sex, race/ethnicity, and educational
206 attainment),³⁰ tobacco use (daily use frequency and primary brand smoked),³⁰ the Fagerström
207 Test of Nicotine Dependence scale,⁴⁰ brand loyalty,⁴ and health anxiety⁴¹ were measured
208 covariates. We assessed brand appeal using a 6-point Likert scale (‘The design on the brand of
209 cigarettes I currently smoke is...Stylish, Fashionable, Cool, High quality, Attractive, Appealing’;
210 $\alpha = .92$).^{42, 43}

211 **Statistical Analysis**

212 Inter-rater reliability of the coded reactivity scores across the five pack conditions was
213 evaluated in two ways:⁴⁴ a) by computing the percentage agreement across the scores while
214 allowing for a tolerance of 1 in ratings, and b) by modeling the intraclass correlation coefficient
215 (ICC) among the raters. With the goal of constructing composite scores, a two-way random
216 effects (i.e., participants within pack type) ICC model was used⁴⁴ with raters' scores evaluated
217 for consistency.⁴⁵ To examine patterns in highest levels of reactivity, quintile cut points were
218 calculated. To examine differences in the time to explore packs, total words uttered, polarity of
219 word choice and verbalized reactivity expressed, we conducted Kruskal-Wallis tests and post-
220 hoc examination of pairwise comparisons using Dunn's tests. Spearman Rho correlation
221 coefficients were used to evaluate construct validity between reactivity scores and word polarity.
222 To explore differences in emotion expressed during pack handling, we plotted the average rates
223 of emotional utterances using a radar chart.⁴⁶ To explore the associations between sample
224 characteristics and reactivity to cigarette packaging designs, we fit an intercept only conditional
225 mixed-effects model with bootstrapped confidence intervals using the "Lme4" package.
226 Reactivity scores were the outcome of interest, with package viewing order, age, gender,
227 race/ethnicity, education, health anxiety, nicotine dependence, brand appeal, brand loyalty, and
228 brand smoked included as fixed effects. All two-way interactions between pack condition and
229 covariates were examined using the "LmerTest" package and significant terms ($p < .05$) retained
230 using an omnibus F-test. Estimated marginal means were computed from model terms using the
231 "effects" package and then plotted.

232 **Results**

233 We obtained quality transcriptions from 324 of the 357 participants of the CASA trial
234 (91%). The average age in our analytic sample was 39.3 years (SD=11.8), 47% were female,
235 68% were non-Hispanic White, with 41% having received a college degree. (**eTable 2**)
236 Participants had low generalized health anxiety scores (Mean=1.1, SD=.09) and smoked 11.6
237 (SD=5.9) cigarettes/day (Mean=11.6, SD=5.9), with moderate levels of nicotine dependence
238 (Mean=3.8, SD=2.3). The majority (77%) reported loyalty to a cigarette brand (Marlboro=43%;
239 Camel= 26%; American Spirit=18%) as well as high levels of appeal towards their brand's
240 packaging (Mean=3.7, SD=1.2).

241 **Assessing the 'Think-Aloud' Pack Handling Task:** Quality data on pack handling time
242 was limited to 234 participants (72%). Average pack handling times were: Own pack (59.4
243 seconds), Blank pack (47.0 seconds) and GWL plain pack (80.2 seconds; **Table 2**). The average
244 number of words in the "think aloud" were: Own pack (97 words), Blank pack (69 words) GWL
245 plain pack (110 words). Inter-rater reliability (± 1 tolerance) for reactivity scores of the six coders
246 ranged from a low of 86.1 for their own US pack to a high of 97.8 for the foot gangrene GWL
247 pack. The ICCs were also very high for all five reactivity scores (range: 0.89 to 0.95). Less than
248 2% of participants commented that they had previous experience with GWLs packs.

249 Three quarters of reactivity scores for participants' own packs were positive (high
250 positive =9.2%; medium positive=34.6%; low positive=31.5%), for an overall mean reactivity
251 score of 1.29 (95%CI=1.25, 1.34). Reactivity scores for the blank pack were mainly neutral (low
252 positive=15%, neutral 65.4%, low negative 15%) for an overall mean score of 0.03
253 (95%CI=0.00, 0.07). Reactivity scores for each of the 3 GWL plain packs were heavily negative:
254 Throat cancer: high negative=8.6%. medium negative=64.5%, low negative=24.1% for an

255 overall mean reactivity score of -1.76 (95%CI=-1.79, -1.73); Neonatal Baby: high
256 negative=11.7%. medium negative=62.7%, low negative=21.3%, for an overall mean reactivity
257 score of -1.85 (95%CI=-1.89,-1.82); Foot Gangrene: high negative=48.1%. medium
258 negative=46.9%, low negative=4.6%, for an overall mean reactivity score of -2.44 (95%CI=-
259 2.47,-2.41). When we examined quintiles of reactivity across the US and GWL packs, we found
260 that 66.7% were highly reactive (top quintile) to at least one pack while 88.9% were moderately
261 reactive (top two quintiles) to at least one pack. Only 8.3% of subjects were highly reactive to
262 three or more packs.

263 The language processing analysis of the polarity of the words used in the “think aloud”
264 task showed a pattern similar to the coded reactivity scores across design conditions: US pack,
265 polarity mean=0.14 [95%CI=0.13, 0.15]; Throat cancer polarity mean =-0.08 [95% CI=-0.08, -
266 0.07]; Neonatal baby, polarity mean=-0.10 [95% CI=-0.11, -0.09); Foot Gangrene, polarity
267 mean= -0.20 [95% CI=-0.21, -0.19]). For each pack condition, polarity scores were correlated
268 with mean reactivity scores (Spearman Rho’s range: 0.30-0.38, *p*-values <.001). Overall, both
269 reactivity scores (*p*-values <.001) and polarity scores (*p*-values <.001) were significantly
270 different across each packaging design condition.

271 The frequency of prototypical emotions expressed in the “think aloud” is presented in the
272 radar chart (**Figure 1**). The foot gangrene pack elicited more emotions characterized as disgust,
273 fear and, to a lesser extent, anger. A similar distribution of expressed emotions was seen in
274 response to the throat cancer GWL pack, although at a lower frequency. The primary emotion
275 elicited by the Neonatal Baby GWL pack was sadness. The two main emotions elicited by their
276 own pack were trust and joy.

277 **Predicting Reactivity to Cigarette Packaging Designs:** The model of reactivity scores
278 (Table 3) had main effects for pack type ($F[4,1589]=59.76, p<.001$), and health anxiety
279 ($F[1,1589]=12.14, p<.001$), and interactions between pack type by viewing order
280 ($F[4,1589]=4.68, p<.001$), gender ($F[4,1589]=8.09, p<.001$), and brand appeal ($F[4,1589]=10.54,$
281 $p<.001$). Compared to the blank pack, reactivity scores for their US pack were significantly more
282 positive for each increasing level of brand appeal ($\beta=0.21$ [95%CI=0.13, 0.29], $p <.001$). Those
283 with greater brand appeal ratings expressed more positive reactivity scores for their own packs
284 (The 75th percentile level of brand appeal had a reactivity score of 1.45 [95%CI=1.37, 1.54]
285 which was much higher than the 25th percentile level with a score of 1.16 [95%CI=1.08, 1.24];
286 Figure 2). No relationship was observed between ratings of brand appeal and reactivity scores
287 for GWL or Blank packaging. More positive reactivity scores for the US pack were observed
288 when the pack was viewed later in the pack handling task (4th position=1.43 [95%CI=1.33, 1.53])
289 compared to when it was viewed earlier in the task (2nd position=1.16 [95%CI=1.06, 1.26]).

290 **Discussion:**

291 US daily smokers, with minimal previous exposure to GWLs, demonstrated consistent
292 negative reactions when they were exposed to the GWLs used as part of plain packaging licensed
293 from the Commonwealth of Australia. While reactivity to GWL packaging was negative across
294 the board, the level of reactivity appeared to align with the negative emotional response found in
295 prior work.^{30, 47-50} Conversely, smokers' current branded cigarette pack was associated with
296 positive reactivity which was higher when their branded pack occurred after exposure to two
297 different GWL packs in the study's pack handling protocol. This finding supports previous
298 research that found current cigarette packaging in the US to be associated with positive affect for

299 smokers, which may promote more regular smoking behavior.⁴ Blank packs, devoid of all
300 marketing, drew a neutral response. Thus, the CASA randomized trial, has three pack conditions
301 (GWL plain pack, Blank pack, US pack) which elicit markedly different initial participant
302 reactions to the cigarette packaging. Accordingly, the selected pack designs should be able to
303 provide an appropriate test of the effectiveness of pack induced reactivity on cigarette smoking
304 cognitions and behavior.

305 A major objective of Australia’s GWL health consequences messaging was to induce
306 thoughts (e.g., “I cannot bear to think of that happening to me”) that might be associated with
307 future quitting behavior.⁵¹ Notably, there was significant negative affect experienced by US
308 smokers in response to the GWL packs, most markedly with the foot gangrene image. Both the
309 images of the neonatal baby and throat cancer were associated with negative affect where the
310 emotions appeared to be a mix of fear, disgust, anger, and sadness – which appear consistent
311 with the goal of this health consequences messaging.⁵¹ However, the foot gangrene image was
312 associated with much stronger negative emotions that were more likely to be characterized as
313 visceral. The emotions expressed appeared to be disgust, fear, and anger much more than
314 sadness. In future work, we will explore the directionality of anger emotions in the transcribed
315 text as these could be focused on the tobacco industry⁵² or perhaps at governmental regulations⁵³
316 or somewhere else. One of the strengths of our qualitative methodology is that it facilitates such
317 further detailed analyses. In the CASA trial, we use ecological momentary assessment to test
318 whether the high initial reactivity to the GWL packs images is associated with increased
319 cognitions when participants reach for a cigarette. With twice daily measurement, we will be
320 able to assess how this reactivity is associated with avoidance and/or pack hiding behavior.⁵⁴ The

321 detailed and frequent measurement of both cognitions and behavior in our CASA randomized
322 trial is a major advance on most of the studies completed to date.^{23,55}

323 GWLs may disrupt the incentive salience attributed to the cigarette packaging via the
324 removal of industry marketing and inclusion of visceral imagery and aversive design
325 characteristics (e.g., fonts and colors). Cue-learning models suggest that appealing design
326 features on packaging capture attention, generate positive affective reactions, and motivate
327 behavior that may facilitate a desire to smoke.^{56, 57} We found that the more brand appeal smokers
328 reported for their own US marketed pack (e.g., cool, stylish, etc.), the more positive their
329 reaction was when asked to express their thoughts and feelings about it. When appealing
330 marketing cues are affixed to tobacco products and perceived immediately prior to use, the cues
331 themselves can acquire similar motivational significance and evoke a desire to smoke.^{8, 58, 59} Yet,
332 levels of brand appeal did not influence the reactivity to the GWL packs, despite the packs being
333 matched to the smoker's cigarette preference and clearly labeled with brand and variant name.
334 Thus, plain GWL packaging may have the intended effect of inhibiting incentive salience
335 attribution by quelling the appeal of the product, an effect consistent with prior research
336 suggesting plain GWL packaging impedes the product's ability to generate appeal.⁶⁰⁻⁶²
337 Nevertheless, reactivity to the blank pack did not vary by levels of brand appeal, indicating that
338 perhaps the appeal of the product may be suppressed by simply removing tobacco industry
339 marketing.

340 There are a number of factors that limit the generalizability of these findings: a) the
341 CASA study recruited volunteer smokers and the population was not representative of the US
342 population, or indeed, of smokers in other countries; b) under-representation of minorities in the

343 study also resulted in a lower proportion of menthol smokers; c) all participants were from San
344 Diego, California which has stronger social norms against smoking than the rest of the US.⁶³
345 There were other limitations included the loss of < 10% (n=33) of the ‘think aloud’ data which
346 was associated with a computer hardware failure at our storage facility. These file losses were
347 few and the hardware event was unrelated to the trial, indicating that the data are most likely
348 missing-at-random.⁶⁴ We used an exposure to GWL packs prior to assessing reactivity to their
349 own pack which likely ~~to~~-primed and influenced responses.⁶⁵ Indeed, a random subset of our
350 sample had two such exposures and these had a higher positive reactivity to their own pack. It is
351 likely that exposure to the GWL pack focused the participant’s thinking on what they liked about
352 their current pack, resulting in higher positive reactivity. The GWL packaging proposed for use
353 in the US is not the plain packaging used in this study, but a hybrid packaging condition that
354 includes reduced industry marketing with smaller graphic warning labels, a design quite common
355 in many countries.¹² We would expect that such hybrid packaging would be associated with a
356 lower level of initial reactivity to the GWLs than was observed in this assessment.

357 Despite limitations, the study had numerous strengths. It allowed smokers to openly
358 express their thoughts and feelings about GWL packaging, thus resulting in more emotive details
359 than structuring their response through a questionnaire. Further, we matched all study packs to
360 the participants’ preferred cigarette brand and variant in an effort to maintain cigarette
361 expectancies and isolate the effects of the reactivity. We used observational measurement of
362 reactions to the various pack designs ~~that resulted in~~with high-quality coding, which yielded a
363 full range of valenced reactivity and was concurrently valid with the polarity of speech as
364 identified by natural language processing.

365 **Conclusion**

366 GWLs are an integral part of the recommended suite of tobacco control strategies for
367 governments to reduce the health costs associated with cigarette smoking,¹³ but as yet, they have
368 not been implemented in the US. In this study, we have demonstrated that US smokers have a
369 wide range of emotive reactions to the cigarette packaging that is being studied in the CASA
370 randomized trial; therefore, the trial will provide a good test of the role of GWLs on smoking
371 related cognitions and behavior.

372

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555 **Table 1.** Coding System for Reactivity to Each Study Pack

Rating	Participant Reactions and Descriptions of Study Packs Include:
High Negative <i>Score: -3</i>	Highly emotional words or amplified moderately emotional words that are negatively valanced to describe pack aversion. Visceral reaction and repeated exclamations of aversion; might repeat emotional words. Language that indicates they do not want to handle the pack.
Medium Negative <i>Score: -2</i>	Moderately emotional words or de-amplified highly emotional words that are negatively valanced to describe pack aversion. No visceral reaction and a lower emotional response than high aversion. Strong initial negative reaction followed by rationalization (e.g., pack design would not modify behavior).
Low Negative <i>Score: -1</i>	Moderately emotional words that are negatively valanced followed by detracting statements or de-amplifiers that overrule the response. No visceral reaction or high/moderate negative emotional response. Mild reaction or acknowledgement of pack aversion followed by rationalization (e.g., pack design would not modify smoking behavior).
Neutral <i>Score: 0</i>	No emotional words to describe pack. No or little reaction to the pack and/or appear to be unaffected by the pack. Text on the pack may be read without saying how it makes them feel.
Low Positive <i>Score: +1</i>	Moderately emotional words that are positively valanced followed by detracting statements or de-amplifiers that overrule the response. No visceral reaction or high/moderate positive emotional response. Mild reaction or acknowledgement of pack appeal followed by rationalization (e.g., pack design would not modify smoking behavior).
Medium Positive <i>Score: +2</i>	Moderately emotional words or de-amplified highly emotional words that are positively valanced to describe pack appeal. No visceral reaction and a lower emotional response than high appeal. Strong initial positive reaction followed by rationalization (e.g., acknowledgement of the health consequences of smoking).
High Positive <i>Score: +3</i>	Highly emotional words or amplified moderately emotional words that are positively valanced to describe pack appeal. Visceral reaction and exclamations of appeal; might repeat emotional words. Language that indicates a desire to smoke a cigarette.

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558 **Table 2.** Examination of Verbalized Response to Study Pack Designs during Initial Exposure using Coded Reactivity and Natural Language
 559 Processing (n=324)

Characteristic	Cigarette Packaging Design					P-value ⁷
	Current US	Blank	Throat Cancer	Neonatal Baby	Foot Gangrene	
Seconds Held^{1,2}	59.4 (56.1, 62.7)	47.0 (44.5, 49.6)	78.5 (74.7, 82.3)	78.5 (74.3, 82.8)	83.7 (79.4, 88.2)	<.001
Language Processing¹						
Words uttered	96.6 (91.9, 101.4)	69.2 (65.6, 72.8)	109.7 (104.7, 114.7)	110.0 (103.9, 116.2)	104.8 (99.9, 109.6)	<.001
Speech polarity	0.14 (0.13, 0.15)	0.00 (-0.01, 0.01)	-0.08 (-0.08, -0.07)	-0.10 (-0.11, -0.09)	-0.20 (-0.21, -0.19)	<.001
Coded Reactivity						
Mean score ¹	1.29 (1.25, 1.34)	0.03 (0.00, 0.07)	-1.76 (-1.79, -1.73)	-1.85 (-1.89, -1.82)	-2.44 (-2.47, -2.41)	<.001
Categorical score ^{3,4}						
<i>High negative</i>	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	28 (8.6%)	38 (11.7%)	156 (48.1%)	
<i>Medium negative</i>	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.6%)	209 (64.5%)	203 (62.7%)	152 (46.9%)	
<i>Low negative</i>	1 (0.3%)	50 (15.4%)	78 (24.1%)	69 (21.3%)	15 (4.6%)	
<i>Neutral</i>	79 (24.4%)	212 (65.4%)	9 (2.8%)	14 (4.3%)	1 (0.3%)	
<i>Low positive</i>	102 (31.5%)	55 (17.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
<i>Medium positive</i>	112 (34.6%)	5 (1.5%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
<i>High positive</i>	30 (9.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	
Inter-rater reliability ^{5,6}						
ICC	0.95 (0.94, 0.96)	0.93 (0.92, 0.95)	0.90 (0.89, 0.92)	0.93 (0.91, 0.94)	0.89 (0.87, 0.91)	
Agreement ± 1	86.1%	92.9%	93.8%	94.4%	97.8%	

560 ¹ Statistics presented: mean (95% confidence interval)

561 ² A subsample of cases were available for timing of the pack handling task (n=234).

562 ³ Statistics presented: n (%)

563 ⁴ Rounded rater coded reactivity score

564 ⁵ Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (95% confidence interval) for coded reactivity score across six independent raters

565 ⁶ Interrater agreement allowing for a tolerance of 1 in ratings.

566 ⁷ Statistical tests performed: Kruskal-Wallis Test.

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570 **Figure 1.** Average Rate of Emotive Words Spoken During Pack Exposure Period (n=324)

571 *Note.* A semantic analysis of transcribed speech that was text mined for emotive utterances using an
572 emotion word lexicon and computing the rate of emotive words expressed per sentence between 0% (no
573 emotional utterances) and 100% (all emotional utterances).

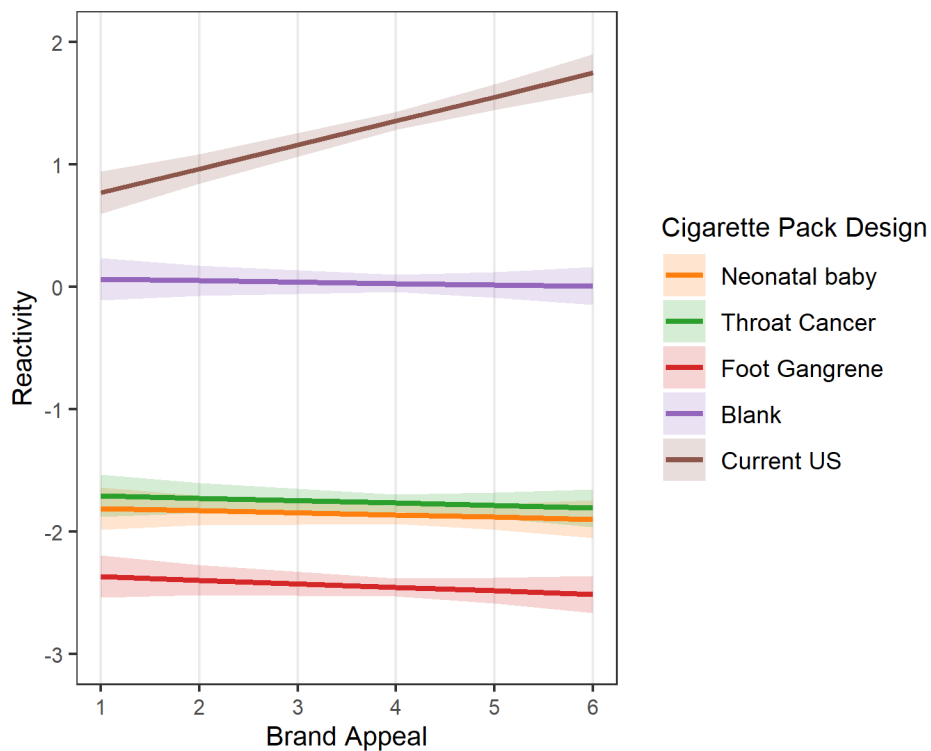
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Table 3. Associations between Sample Characteristics and Reactivity to Cigarette Packaging Designs (n=324)

Regressor	Reactivity			
	Main Effects Model		Interaction Model	
	β (95%CI)	P-value	β (95%CI)	P-value
Main Effects				
Viewing order	0.01 (-0.02, 0.03)	.56	-0.02 (-0.09, 0.05)	.53
Pack				
<i>Blank</i>	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Current US</i>	1.26 (1.15, 1.36)	<.001	-0.13 (-0.59, 0.34)	.57
<i>Throat Cancer</i>	-1.79 (-1.89, -1.69)	<.001	-1.74 (-2.16, -1.35)	<.001
<i>Neonatal Baby</i>	-1.89 (-2.00, -1.79)	<.001	-1.90 (-2.32, -1.47)	<.001
<i>Foot Gangrene</i>	-2.48 (-2.58, -2.38)	<.001	-2.24 (-2.69, -1.84)	<.001
Age (per 10 years)	0.01 (-0.02, 0.04)	.56	0.01 (-0.02, 0.04)	.61
Gender				
<i>Male</i>	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Female</i>	-0.11 (-0.18, -0.04)	<.001	-0.05 (-0.18, 0.09)	.52
Race/Ethnicity				
<i>Non-Hispanic White</i>	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Hispanic</i>	-0.05 (-0.15, 0.06)	.36	-0.04 (-0.14, 0.06)	.43
<i>Other Non-Hispanic</i>	0.04 (-0.05, 0.12)	.38	0.04 (-0.05, 0.12)	.36
Education				
<i>College or advanced degree</i>	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Some college</i>	0.03 (-0.05, 0.09)	.47	0.02 (-0.05, 0.09)	.54
<i>High school or less</i>	-0.08 (-0.18, 0.03)	.17	-0.09 (-0.20, 0.02)	.10
Health anxiety	-0.07 (-0.11, -0.03)	<.001	-0.07 (-0.10, -0.03)	<.001
Nicotine dependence	-0.00 (-0.02, 0.01)	.53	-0.01 (-0.02, 0.01)	.51
Brand appeal	0.03 (0.00, 0.05)	.08	-0.01 (-0.07, 0.04)	.71
Brand smoked				
<i>Marlboro</i>	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
<i>American Spirit</i>	-0.04 (-0.14, 0.05)	.37	-0.04 (-0.14, 0.05)	.35
<i>Camel</i>	0.05 (-0.03, 0.14)	.19	0.05 (-0.03, 0.13)	.22
<i>Other</i>	0.01 (-0.09, 0.12)	.79	0.01 (-0.09, 0.12)	.82
Brand loyalty				
<i>No</i>	<i>Ref</i>		<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Yes</i>	0.03 (-0.05, 0.12)	.42	0.03 (-0.05, 0.11)	.43
Interactions				
Pack \times Viewing order				

<i>Blank</i>	--	<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Current US</i>	--	0.16 (0.06, 0.26)	.002
<i>Throat Cancer</i>	--	0.02 (-0.07, 0.10)	.68
<i>Neonatal Baby</i>	--	0.04 (-0.04, 0.13)	.30
<i>Foot Gangrene</i>	--	-0.01 (-0.09, 0.07)	.77
Pack × Gender (Ref = Male)			
<i>Blank</i>	--	<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Current US</i>	--	0.28 (0.08, 0.47)	.007
<i>Throat Cancer</i>	--	-0.13 (-0.32, 0.07)	.22
<i>Neonatal Baby</i>	--	-0.18 (-0.38, 0.02)	.08
<i>Foot Gangrene</i>	--	-0.24 (-0.44, -0.05)	.019
Pack × Brand appeal			
<i>Blank</i>	--	<i>Ref</i>	
<i>Current US</i>	--	0.21 (0.13, 0.29)	<.001
<i>Throat Cancer</i>	--	-0.01 (-0.10, 0.07)	.83
<i>Neonatal Baby</i>	--	-0.01 (-0.09, 0.08)	.87
<i>Foot Gangrene</i>	--	-0.02 (-0.10, 0.07)	.67

577 *Note.* From separate intercept only conditional mixed effects models with bootstrapped 95% confidence intervals
578 (n=1000) predicting reactivity to cigarette packaging design.



580 **Figure 2.** Relationship between Level of Brand Appeal and Affective Reactivity to Five Cigarette Pack
 581 Designs (N=324)

582 *Note.* Estimated marginal means and 95% confidence intervals extracted from intercept only
 583 conditional mixed effects model predicting reactivity to cigarette packaging design with age,
 584 race/ethnicity, education, health anxiety, nicotine dependence, brand loyalty, and brand smoked included
 585 as fixed main effects and package viewing order, gender, and brand appeal as fixed interaction effects.

586