

Smokers' perceptions of incentivised cessation programmes: Examining how payment thresholds change with income

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SRNT-E 2020 17 September 2020



#### Declaration of Interests

- SGF has consulted pharmaceutical companies on matters relating to cessation and harm minimisation. These organisations were not involved in the current study in any way.
- The other authors have nothing to disclose.

 Funding for this study was provide by Cancer Council Tasmania



### Financial incentive programmes

- Method of motivating initiation and sustaining quit attempts by offering financial rewards
- Etter & Schmid (2016)
  - 6 sessions over 6 months
  - Incentive condition: Voucher for each session they are verified abstinent
  - Maximum amount: U.S. \$1,650



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- Method of motivating initiation and sustaining quit attempts by offering financial rewards
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  - 6 sessions over 6 months
  - Incentive condition: Voucher for each session they are verified abstinent
  - Maximum amount: U.S. \$1,650
- Notley et al. (2019):
  - Longest follow-up RR = 1.49 (95% CI 1.28 to 1.73)



#### How much should we pay?

- Policy/providers want to know how to best design programmes
- Breen et al. (2020): U.S. \$106 \$4,000



#### How much should we pay?

- Amount seems to affect programme outcomes
  - Not observed in our review Breen et al. (2020)
  - Higher amount > smaller amount
- But this does not indicate which amount(s) should be provided



#### How much should we pay?

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- But this does not indicate which amount(s) should be provided
- Differences between income groups?
  - Economic theory: satisfaction (utility)
    of an additionally money decreases as
    the base amount is higher



#### **Objectives**

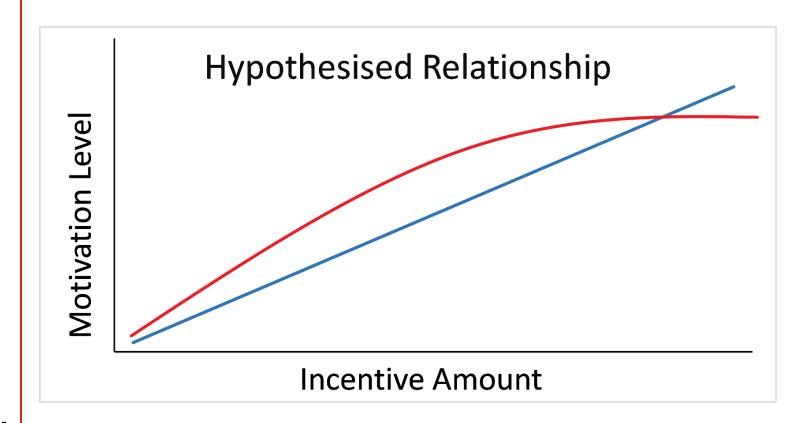
- Overall objective was to examine the relationship between incentive amounts and motivation
  - Role of incentives is in motivation
  - Optimising amounts may mean money can be used for other purposes



#### **Objectives**

- Overall objective was to examine the relationship between incentive amounts and motivation
  - Role of incentives is in motivation
  - Optimising amounts may mean money can be used for other purposes
- Two questions:
  - Effect of income level
  - Search for optimal level of incentive

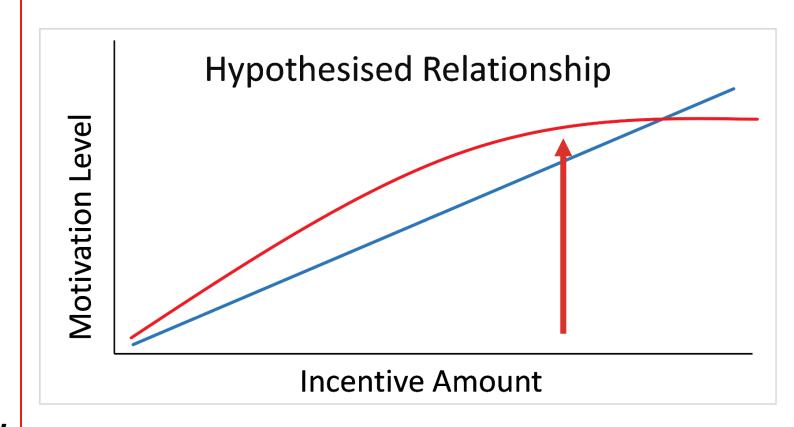
# Is there a point after which offering greater incentive amounts is of little benefit?



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Results

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#### Methods

#### Two studies:

• Study 1: N = 56

• Study 2: N = 147

 Random presentation of hypothetical 10-week programmes with various incentive amounts

Results



#### Methods

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• Study 1: N = 56

• Study 2: N = 147

 Random presentation of hypothetical 10-week programmes with various incentive amounts

#### Three outcome measures:

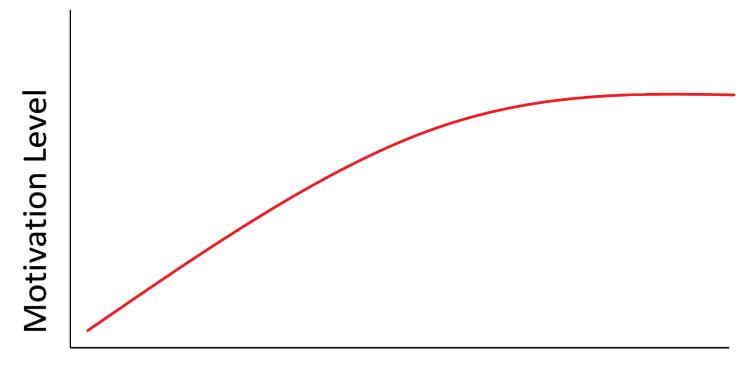
- Willingness to enrol
- Appeal of programmes
- Motivation to quit if enrolled



- Growth models
- Inflection points



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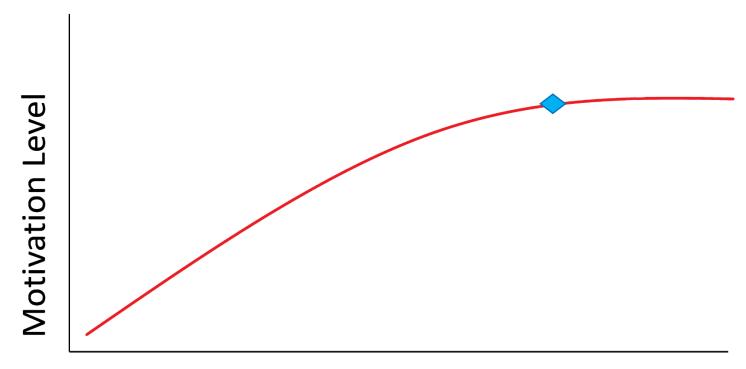


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**Incentive Amount** 



- Growth models
- Inflection points

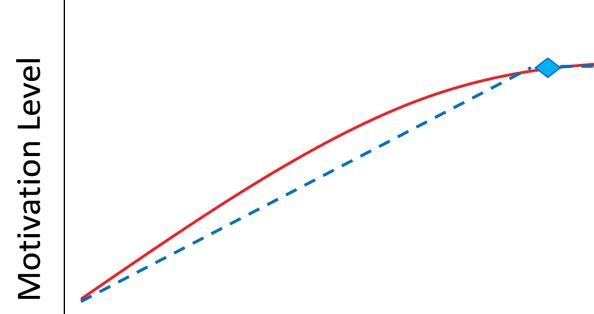


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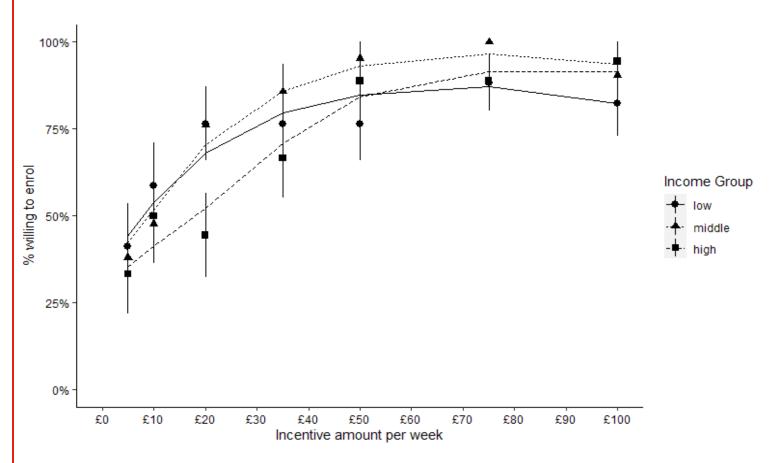


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**Incentive Amount** 



## Study 1: No differences by income

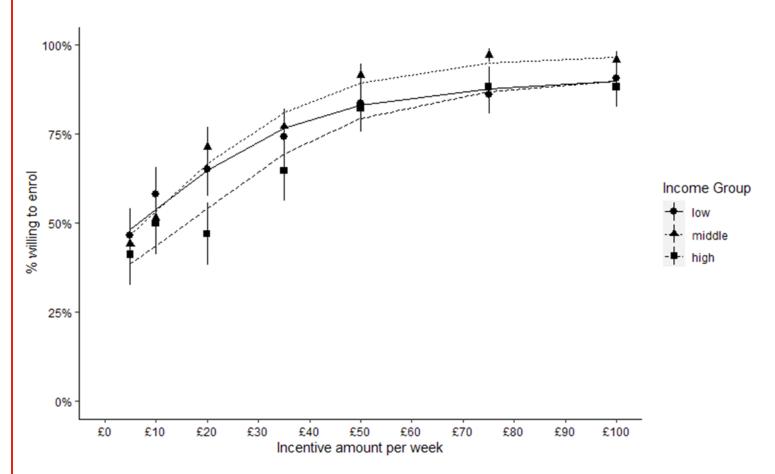


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N = 56; ; approx. equal *n* per income.



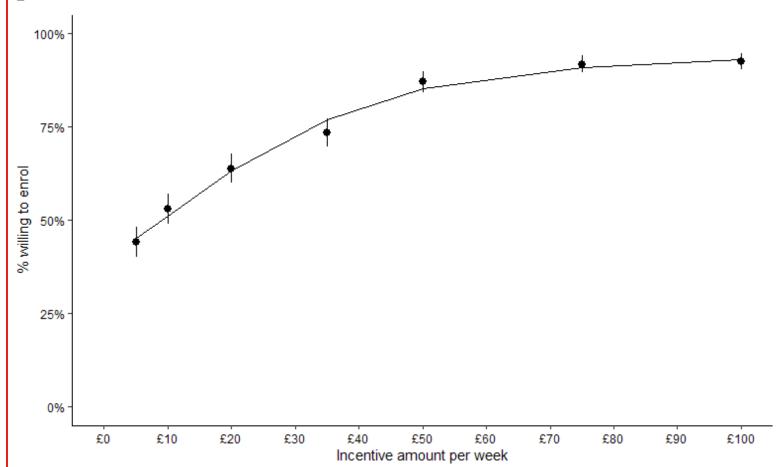
# Study 2: No difference in willingness to enrol by income



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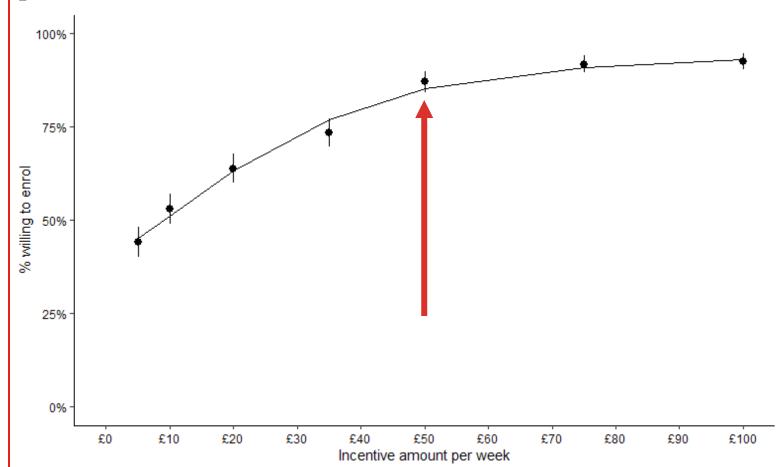
N = 147; approx. equal n per income.





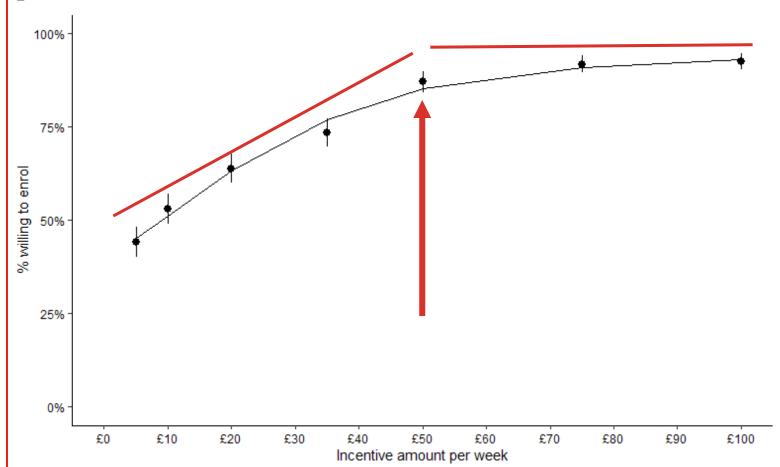
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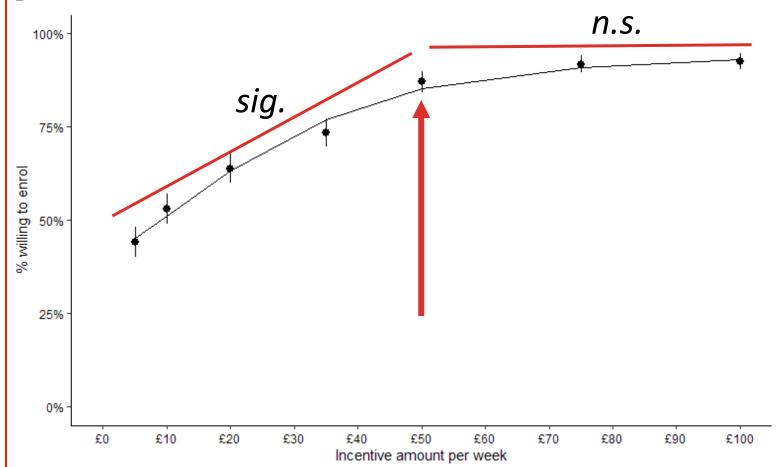
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### Summary of findings

- Smoker's opinions of programmes were associated with incentive amount
- All income groups equally likely to enrol
  - Higher income earners rated appeal/motivation to quit lower
- Inflection point at ~£50 per week



## Higher amounts are beneficial, to a point

- Adds to work suggesting benefits to using higher amount
- Curvilinear relationship a point at which increasing the amount will not meaningfully benefit motivation or enrolments



### Amounts may be equally viable for all income group

- Views of low-income smokers' = middle-income smokers'
- Use in higher-income groups still viable:
  - Equally likely to enrol
  - Ratings were still high
  - Shape of the outcome-amount relationships

Results



#### Future directions

- Hypothetical questions; confirmation is needed
- Consideration of other programme characteristics
- Larger and alternative samples

#### Thank you

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