

Epidemiological and Methodological Considerations

The first chapter of this part of the monograph explores the usefulness of epidemiologically defined phenotypes of tobacco use for genetic studies. Three analyses are presented that demonstrate the correlation between specific transition points along the smoking cessation trajectory with other self-reported measures of smoking and related behaviors. Subsequent chapters discuss a potential etiological architecture for genetic and environmental influences on smoking phenotypes as well as an ontological approach for hierarchical modeling of joint actions of genes.

