

CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

MR. GROSS MOUTH TM MODEL AND CHEWING TABACCO JAR

Plaster, Wood, Metal, Printed paper, Plastic, Silicone, Tobacco and Glass

H. 8 (closed) / H. 13 (Open) x L. 9.4 x W. 12.3 cm (model)

H. 1.6 x L. 20.2 x W. 15.2 cm (holder)

H. 7 x D. 6 cm (jar)

Starting in 1989

Waco, Texas, United States of America

MAH.R.2021.5248 and 5249

The model belongs to Angra do Heroísmo Museum's Science and Technology Conservation Unit and was produced by Health Edco®. It represents the human mouth with its dentition and tongue. It also includes a chewing tobacco jar. Its nomenclature, Mr. Gross Mouth™, is derived from the clear lack of dental hygiene, which is itself derived from the continuous tobacco chewing and smoking. Tobacco consumption also directly contributes to the development of other diseases and health issues, such as cavities and tooth loss, gingivitis, gingival recession, and throat, tongue and gum cancer. The model's caption includes these ailments, allowing for their detection in a practical and precise manner.

Its secondary intent is to dissuade the viewer from consuming tobacco. This is achieved through the association of the chewing tobacco sample also in display. Following the provided directions, once the model is initially washed, a small portion of the chewing tobacco is to be inserted into the mouth. Once the tobacco is in the mouth, the model allows for the manipulation of the tongue through an included spatula. It then spits out the chewed tobacco. To enhance its repugnant reality, mixing in water allows for the simulation of saliva.

Through this direct, educational and interactive representation of all the ailments associated with tobacco consumption, Health Edco® aims to inform the population of the negative aspects created by this habit. It can be used in schools, educational services, medical offices and prevention campaigns in the health and medical field.