



International Center for Alcohol Policies
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ICAP Periodic Review on Drinking and Culture

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International Center for Alcohol Policies (ICAP) is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to promote the understanding of the role of alcohol in society through dialogue and partnerships involving the beverage alcohol industry, the public health community, and others interested in alcohol policy, and to help reduce the abuse of alcohol worldwide. ICAP is supported by major international producers of beverage alcohol.

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What Is the *ICAP Periodic Review on Drinking and Culture*?

Background, Objectives, and Features

Alcohol consumption is an integral part of the social fabric in most societies. Yet the role occupied by drinking is quite different across countries and cultures, and is reflected in local customs, patterns, and attitudes. Despite this wide diversity, the *lingua franca* of the alcohol field is English, as are the publications that provide the evidence base most commonly used in international policy discussions. As a result, much of the research published in other languages and reflecting different cultural contexts and approaches escapes broader notice.

The *ICAP Periodic Review on Drinking and Culture* is an electronic publication that seeks to help remedy this disparity. Its key objectives are to:

- (1) give greater exposure to research not currently published or widely available in English;
- (2) broaden the range of cultural perspectives and the evidence base used in the crafting of policy and prevention.

Each issue of the *Periodic Review* presents English translations of abstracts of articles appearing in language areas currently underrepresented in major English-language research databases. The abstracts are grouped by topic and country.

Coverage of the *Periodic Review* is limited to psychosocial and socio-cultural research, to focus on drinking culture, behavior, patterns, and psychosocial outcomes. Identification and selection of key research to be featured and all editorial decisions are carried out by the Editorial Group, consisting of experts from diverse geographic, linguistic, and discipline areas (see Annex 1 for a list of the Editorial Group members, and Annex 2 for the Guidelines on identifying and selecting the featured work). ICAP serves as a coordinating center for receiving the nominations, arranging translations, and publishing the *Periodic Review*.

The inaugural issue of the *Review* features abstracts of journal articles published in the past five years in Central, Southern, and Eastern Europe. In subsequent issues, new research will be highlighted, and the geographic focus may be expanded to include other regions.

The publication will be updated and disseminated semi-annually, beginning in October 2008. It is supported by a page on the ICAP website (www.icap.org), which serves as public repository of *Periodic Review* issues and related materials.

It is hoped that this publication will become a reliable tool for researchers internationally, bolstering the common evidence base and laying the foundation for developing prevention and intervention approaches that would take into account cultural variations in drinking patterns and outcomes.

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Alcohol and Pregnancy

Czech Republic

Alcohol and pregnancy

K. Nespore, L. Csemy

Časopis Lékařů Českých, 2005, 144(10), 704–705.

ABSTRACT: Alcohol abuse in pregnancy causes fetal alcohol spectrum disorders that range from discreet developmental problems to fetal alcohol syndrome. That is why pregnant women and the women considering pregnancy should abstain from alcohol. Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders occur even after drinking at early stages of pregnancy, when many women are not aware of being pregnant. According to one study, 75% of Czech women drank alcohol before pregnancy, and one third of them continued drinking during the first three months of pregnancy. According to new epidemiological data, 83.4% of Czech women aged between 18 and 40 years drank alcohol during the year preceding the pregnancy. The prevention in this area in the Czech Republic is clearly not satisfactory, and it is complicated by the alcohol advertising targeted at women, low taxation of alcohol, and other factors.

KEYWORDS: Alcohol in pregnancy; Women; Maternal drinking; Prevention; Czech Republic.

Alkohol v těhotenství

K. Nespore, L. Csemy

Časopis Lékařů Českých, 2005, 144(10), 704–705.

SOUHRN: Zneužívání alkoholu je spojeno se širokým spektrem poruch plodu, počínaje nenápadným opožděním ve vývoji až k obrazům plně rozvinutého fetálního alkoholového syndromu. Těhotné ženy by proto neměly pít žádný alkohol. Alkohol by se měly vyhýbat i ženy, které počítají s otěhotněním, protože k závažným poškozením plodu dochází i na počátku těhotenství, když žena o svém těhotenství ještě neví. Podle výzkumu provedeného v České republice koncem 90. let minulého století pije alkoholické nápoje před otěhotněním zhruba 75 % žen a z nich třetina pokračuje v pití alkoholu i během prvních tří měsíců těhotenství. Podle novějších údajů pilo v roce předcházejícím těhotenství alkoholické nápoje 83,4 % českých žen ve věku 18 až 40 let. Z uvedeného vyplývá, že prevence v této oblasti není v České republice dostatečná. Situaci komplikuje reklama často zaměřená na ženy, nízké zdanění alkoholu a další skutečnosti.

France

Fetal alcohol syndrome: Study on alcohol consumption during pregnancy

M. Senn, D. Straub, J. Pellet, D. Boussiron

Alcoologie et Addictologie, 2005, 27(3), 181–190.

ABSTRACT: Alcohol consumption during pregnancy is a major public health problem. The objective of this study was to determine the prevalence of alcohol consumption by pregnant women in Saint-Etienne Hospital and identify possible risk factors and consequences related to this consumption. Four-hundred and three questionnaires were distributed to women in maternity departments, comprising, in particular, the AUDIT self-administered questionnaire and the HAD self-administered questionnaire. The results showed that 48% of women had consumed alcohol during pregnancy; 6.6% of women described at least one episode of occasional heavy drinking. Two subgroups were defined: occasional drinkers and regular drinkers. Regular drinkers reported significantly more alcohol-related problems in their family circle, and heavier smoking before pregnancy. This group also had more pregnancies, but not more children ($p < 0.05$). No significant difference was observed between the two groups in terms of age, family situation, monthly household income, presence of psychotropic medication, term of pregnancy, and the infant birth weight and head circumference. One percent of women reported excessive drinking, but no scores in this sample suggested alcohol dependence.

KEYWORDS: Alcohol in pregnancy; FAS; Maternal drinking; Drinking patterns; France.

Syndrome d'alcoolisation fœtale : Étude portant sur la consommation d'alcool pendant la grossesse

M. Senn, D. Straub, J. Pellet, D. Boussiron

Alcoologie et Addictologie, 2005, 27(3), 181–190.

RÉSUMÉ : La consommation d'alcool pendant la grossesse constitue actuellement un problème majeur de santé publique. L'objectif de ce travail était d'étudier la prévalence de la consommation d'alcool chez la femme enceinte au CHU de Saint-Étienne et de mettre en évidence d'éventuels facteurs de risque et conséquences liés à cette consommation. 403 questionnaires ont été distribués, dans les services de maternité, aux femmes dans les trois jours qui suivent leur accouchement; ils comprenaient notamment l'auto-questionnaire AUDIT et l'auto-questionnaire HAD. Les résultats révèlent que 48 % des femmes ont eu un contact avec l'alcool pendant leur grossesse. 6,6 % des femmes décrivent au moins un épisode de consommation massive occasionnelle. Deux sous-groupes ont été créés, différenciant consommatrices occasionnelles et consommatrices régulières. Ces dernières rapportent de façon significative plus de problèmes liés à l'alcool dans leur entourage familial, et plus de consommation de tabac avant la grossesse. Elles ont également eu plus de grossesses, mais pas plus d'enfants ($p < 0,05$). Il n'existe pas de différence significative entre les deux groupes concernant l'âge, la situation familiale, le revenu mensuel du ménage, la prise de traitement psychotrope, le terme de la grossesse, le poids et le périmètre crânien du bébé à la naissance. 1 % des femmes ont eu une consommation excessive d'alcool. Il n'y a pas de score dans notre échantillon suggérant un alcool dépendance.

Italy

Alcohol consumption, pregnancy, and fetal alcohol syndrome: Implications for public health and prevention strategies

G. Ripabelli, L. Cimmino, G. M. Grasso

Annali di Igiene: Medicina Preventiva e di Comunità, 2006, 18(5), 391–406.

ABSTRACT: Alcohol consumption during pregnancy is a significant public health problem and is an established cause of serious birth defects and developmental delay, collectively described as fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS). It is characterised by facial abnormalities and growth deficiency. Infants affected by the syndrome show intellectual impairment and difficulties in learning, memory, problem-solving, and attention and experience additional problems with mental health and social interactions. However, an absence of the characteristic facial defects and growth deficiency may result in a failure to identify children with prenatal alcohol exposure, which can further present as alcohol-related neurodevelopment disorder (ARND) or alcohol-related birth defects (ARBD). Harmonisation of the methodology used for epidemiological studies with research activities that establish real baseline prevalence of FAS, and identification of women who are at highest risk of bearing a FAS-affected child are essential prerequisites for prevention. In addition, it is essential to assess different FAS preventive approaches through carefully controlled studies. Universal, selected, and indicated prevention strategies have been identified, targeting different populations. Since FAS and other adverse effects of drinking during pregnancy are theoretically completely preventable, it is vital to make more efforts to improve the application of the most appropriate interventions. Although alcohol consumption in Italy has persisted, mainly among the young (including women of childbearing age), knowledge about FAS and alcohol-related effects is lacking. Because of the high cost for care of individuals with FAS, it is essential to apply appropriate interventions to prevent this problem.

KEYWORDS: Alcohol in pregnancy; FAS; Maternal drinking; Public health; Prevention; Attitudes; Italy.

Alcolismo, gravidanza e fetopatia alcolica: Implicazioni in Sanità Pubblica e strategie preventive

G. Ripabelli, L. Cimmino, G. M. Grasso

Annali di Igiene: Medicina Preventiva e di Comunità, 2006, 18(5), 391–406.

RIASSUNTO: È noto che il consumo di alcol durante la gravidanza può determinare gravi malformazioni fetali. Nonostante il miglioramento delle misure preventive, questa condizione rimane un importante problema di sanità pubblica. La fetopatia alcolica (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, FAS) è caratterizzata da un particolare pattern di anomalie facciali, ritardo di crescita e anomalie di sviluppo del sistema nervoso centrale che spesso includono ritardo mentale. Gli effetti correlati al consumo di alcol, oltre alla fetopatia alcolica, comprendono anche le malformazioni congenite correlate all'alcol (Alcohol-Related Birth Defects, ARBD) e le anomalie neurocomportamentali correlate all'alcol (Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder, ARND). L'armonizzazione delle metodologie usate per gli studi epidemiologici, insieme alla valutazione della reale prevalenza della sindrome e alla corretta identificazione delle donne a maggior rischio di partorire neonati affetti da FAS, sono un prerequisito essenziale per la prevenzione. Inoltre, è importante accertare quali siano gli approcci preventivi più efficaci. Sono state individuate diverse strategie di prevenzione che si basano su approcci, sia generali sia selettivi, per limitare il consumo di alcol nelle donne in età fertile o in gravidanza e su approcci mirati e specifici per la fetopatia alcolica. Poiché la FAS e gli effetti alcol-correlati sono completamente prevenibili, è di vitale importanza migliorare le strategie preventive. Nonostante in Italia il consumo di alcolici sia in aumento, soprattutto tra i giovani (includendo anche le donne in età fertile), si registra una scarsa consapevolezza sul problema ed una limitata disponibilità di dati epidemiologici e conoscenze sulla fetopatia alcolica ed sugli effetti alcol-correlati. Pertanto, anche a causa degli elevati costi sanitari per il trattamento dei soggetti affetti da questa sindrome, appare essenziale applicare idonei interventi preventivi per arginare questo problema.

Portugal

Assessment of alcohol consumption during pregnancy

C. dos Santos Fernandes, A. Bento

Boletim do Centro Regional de Alcoologia do Norte, 2005, 1.

ABSTRACT: This study sought to evaluate the habits of consumption of alcoholic beverages in pregnant women and their knowledge and sources of information concerning detrimental consequences of drinking during pregnancy. To this end, a questionnaire was applied to be administered indirectly, which made it possible to characterize the sample and evaluate nutritional habits, consumption of alcoholic beverages and other substances, as well as knowledge concerning harmful effects of alcohol during pregnancy. It was ascertained that more than one-fourth of the sample consumed alcoholic beverages during pregnancy, and that 83.0% had at least one relative who was a consumer of alcohol. No relationship was found between the consumption of coffee or tobacco and the consumption of alcohol. With regard to nutritional habits, it was verified that pregnant women who did not consume alcoholic beverages had a larger number of meals. The most cited source of information on the effects of alcohol was social communication, with physicians having been cited by 27.7% of the sample. Most of the pregnant women stated that alcohol had harmful effects on pregnancy, harming the child. However, 76.6% stated that they did not know the specific effects of alcohol on pregnancy. Thus, the consumption of alcoholic beverages during pregnancy, together with an absence of information or inadequate information, may pose a risk to the birth of children and could be harmful to their full health.

KEYWORDS: Alcohol in pregnancy; Maternal drinking; Drinking patterns; Portugal.

Avaliação do consumo de bebidas alcoólicas na gravidez

C. dos Santos Fernandes, A. Bento

Boletim do Centro Regional de Alcoologia do Norte, 2005, 1.

RESUMO: O presente estudo pretendeu avaliar, em grávidas, os hábitos de consumo de bebidas alcoólicas, os conhecimentos e as fontes de informação acerca dos malefícios do álcool na gravidez, pelo que se aplicou um questionário, de administração indirecta, que permitiu caracterizar a amostra e avaliar hábitos alimentares, consumo de bebidas alcoólicas e outras substâncias, bem como os conhecimentos sobre os efeitos nocivos do álcool na gravidez. Constatou-se que mais de ¼ da amostra consumiu bebidas alcoólicas durante a gravidez e que 83,0% tinham pelo menos um familiar consumidor de álcool. Não foi encontrada dependência entre o consumo de café ou tabaco com o consumo de álcool. Em relação aos hábitos alimentares, verificou-se que as grávidas que não consumiram bebidas alcoólicas fizeram maior número de refeições. A fonte de informação sobre os efeitos do álcool mais citada foi a comunicação social, tendo o médico sido referido por 27,7% da amostra. A maioria das grávidas referiu que o álcool exerce efeitos nocivos sobre a gravidez, prejudicando a criança. No entanto, 76,6% refere não conhecer os efeitos específicos do álcool na gravidez. Assim, o consumo de bebidas alcoólicas durante a gravidez aliado à ausência ou à inadequada informação pode potenciar o nascimento de crianças em risco podendo comprometer uma saúde plena.

Alcohol and the Workplace

France

Alcohol consumption and alcoholism in the workplace: Ethnography of a French postal service sorting center

P. Merle,¹ B. Le Beau²

Revue Française de Sociologie, 2004, 45(1), 3–36. Full text is available (in French): www.cairn.info/load_pdf.php?ID_ARTICLE=RFS_451_0003.

ABSTRACT: This study, based on observation and interviews with employees and managers of the French postal service, “La Poste,” was conducted to improve knowledge of the alcohol consumption and alcoholism specific to this occupational milieu. Neither of these practices can be studied in isolation from employee socializing and workplace mutual assistance practices, or from the social control practices that regulate routine production activity and, specifically, require managers to report “intemperate agents.” Analysis of interdependence between routine work and alcohol consumption practices sheds light on why managers often exhibit a passive attitude toward employee drinking, despite regulations requiring them to report so-called alcoholic workers.

KEYWORDS: Workplace drinking; Occupational groups; France.

Alcoolisation et alcoolisme au travail : Ethnographie d’un centre de tri postal

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Revue Française de Sociologie, 2004, 45(1), 3–36.

RÉSUMÉ : Fondée sur des observations et des entretiens menés auprès des agents et des cadres de l’entreprise La Poste, cette recherche a pour objet de mieux connaître les pratiques d’alcoolisation et d’alcoolisme spécifiques à ce milieu professionnel. Les unes comme les autres ne peuvent être considérées en dehors des pratiques de sociabilité des agents, pratiques d’entraide au travail et pratiques de contrôle social qui régulent à la fois le quotidien de l’activité de production et le signalement de « l’agent intempérant » par l’encadrement. L’analyse de l’interdépendance entre le quotidien du travail et les pratiques d’alcoolisation permet de comprendre pourquoi les cadres de La Poste, malgré leurs obligations réglementaires les incitant à signaler les agents dits alcooliques, semblent si souvent passifs.

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Cardiovascular Effects

Croatia

Relationship of regional alcohol drinking patterns and cardiovascular risk factors in Croatia

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Acta Medica Croatica, 2007, 61(3), 275–279.

ABSTRACT: Aim: The aim of this study was to investigate regional distribution of drinking patterns and its relation to the prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors. **Subjects and Methods:** Nine thousand seventy participants aged over 18 years were questioned during the 2003 Croatian Health Survey; the responses were analyzed, and weighted data were extrapolated to the adult Croatian population. Study group included subjects reporting regular intake of any type of alcohol (beer, wine, or spirits) during the past year. Alcohol abstainers served as a control group. **Results:** The highest prevalence of alcohol consumption was recorded in southern Croatia (32.3%, n= 215529). Alcohol drinkers were mostly men (72%). In all Croatian regions, there was a uniform distribution of spirits drinking (6 to 7 glasses, 0.033 liters per day). Subjects from western Croatia and the city of Zagreb mostly reported drinking wine (4 to 5 glasses, 0.2 liters per day). A mixture of wine and water predominated in southern and northern Croatia (7 glasses, 0.2 liters per day), whereas subjects who mainly drank beer were from eastern and central Croatia (10 bottles, 0.33 liters per day). The highest prevalence of arterial hypertension (56.6%) was found in regular alcohol drinkers from western Croatia. The highest prevalence of acute myocardial infarction (6.7–7.0%) and angina pectoris (8.2–8.6%) was observed in subjects from northern Croatia and the city of Zagreb. The occurrence of acute myocardial infarction was more common in regular alcohol drinkers. The lowest prevalence of acute myocardial infarction was recorded in regular drinkers from central Croatia (1.4%). The prevalence of stroke was generally lower in regular drinkers, with lowest prevalence in western Croatia (0.9%). **Conclusion:** Drinking patterns vary across regions of the Republic of Croatia according to the prevalence, quantity, and type of alcohol beverage, and so does the distribution of cardiovascular risk factors. On comparing regional distribution of cardiovascular risk factors between regular consumers and abstainers, we observed a divergent influence of alcohol consumption, especially on the occurrence of arterial hypertension and stroke.

KEYWORDS: Cardiovascular disease; Drinking patterns; Beverage preference; Geographic factors; Per capita alcohol consumption; Risk factor; Croatia.

Usporedba regionalne potrošnje alkoholnih pića i kardiovaskularnih čimbenika rizika Hrvatskoj

M. Milošević, J. Mustajbegović, S. Abdović, P. Šulentić, J. Pucarín–Cvetković

Acta Medica Croatica, 2007, 61(3), 275–279.

SAŽETAK: Cilj rada je bio prikazati regionalnu raspodjelu potrošnje alkoholnih pića u odnosu na raspodjelu kardiovaskularnih čimbenika rizika. Hrvatskom zdravstvenom anketom (HZA2003) obuhvaćeno je 9070 ispitanika starijih od 18 godina koji su ponderirani na cjelokupnu hrvatsku populaciju. Prilikom odabir ispitanika koji piju uzet je kriterij svakodnevne potrošnje barem jedne vrste alkoholnog pića. Alkohol pretežno piju muškarci (više od 72%). Najviše ispitanika pije u južnoj Hrvatskoj (32, 3%). Podjednaku potrošnju jakih alkoholnih pića nalazimo u svim hrvatskim regijama (6–7 čašica dnevno). Potrošnja čistog vina je najveća u zapadnoj Hrvatskoj (5 čaša dnevno) a kombinacija vina i vode u južnoj i sjevernoj Hrvatskoj. Najveća prevalencija arterijske hipertenzije (56, 6%) zabilježena je u zapadnoj Hrvatskoj u ispitanika koji piju, a infarkta miokarda (7%) u ispitanika koji piju iz sjeverne Hrvatske. Prevalencije moždanog udara i angine pectoris su manje u ispitanika koji piju. Naši rezultati pokazuju različite regionalne distribucije svakodnevne potrošnje alkoholnih pića, različitu količinu i vrstu.

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Drinking and Violence

France

Violence, alcohol, and mental health

C. Pérez-Díaz, M.-S. Huré

Alcoologie et Addictologie, 2006, 28(4S), 39S–48S.

ABSTRACT: Domestic violence within couples or toward children and sexual assault against adults and minors are brought before a regional criminal tribunal in the Paris region for the period of a year. The accused tend to belong to the lower classes; they also tend to have a history of violence and often a medical history of both problem drinking and mental health issues. These perpetrators are commonly given either suspended sentences for those charged with assault, or a combination of fixed prison terms and suspended sentences for sex offenders. There is a pronounced need for care among one fifth of these people, exhibiting the problems that must be addressed: alcohol abuse, mental illness, and illegal drug use.

KEYWORDS: Domestic violence; Sexual assault; Treatment; Penal system; Mental health; France.

Violences, alcool et santé mentale

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Alcoologie et Addictologie, 2006, 28(4S), 39S–48S.

RÉSUMÉ : Des contentieux de violences générales, dans des couples ou envers des enfants, et d'agressions sexuelles, envers des majeurs ou des mineurs, sont renvoyés en jugement devant un grand tribunal correctionnel de la région parisienne durant une année. Ces prévenus appartiennent à des classes populaires, ils ont très généralement un passé de violences et souvent des antécédents de santé avec des problèmes d'alcool et secondairement de santé mentale. Ces caractéristiques correspondent à des critères de sélection opérant directement ou indirectement en amont, puis dans le système pénal. Ces auteurs sont essentiellement condamnés à des peines d'emprisonnement avec sursis pour des violences, à de l'emprisonnement réparti entre des peines fermes et avec sursis en matière sexuelle. Des obligations de soins sont prononcées pour le cinquième d'entre eux, réparties selon les problèmes à prendre en charge : alcool, pathologies mentales et stupéfiants.

Hungary

The influence of alcohol use and violent behavior on the beliefs related to alcohol use and aggression

E. Bácskai,⁴ I. Pintye, J. Gerevich

Psychiatria Hungarica, 2006, 21(1), 68–76.

ABSTRACT: The authors examined the effect of personal involvement (drinking, violent behavior) on beliefs concerning the causal connections between drinking alcohol and aggressive behavior. The sample of the study comprised 1200 persons, representative of the population over 18 years of age, and was selected by a two-step, group stratified sampling method. The measuring instruments used for the study were the questionnaire on alcohol-aggression beliefs, applied by Paglia and Room, the Buss and Perry Aggression Questionnaire, and the sociodemographic characteristics of gender, age, and education. Analyses using multivariate regression models showed that aggressive behavior, particularly verbal and physical aggression, and heavy drinking significantly influence the belief of a causal connection between alcohol and aggression. The more a person drinks and the more aggressive he becomes, the more likely he is not to believe that drinking leads to aggression. Women and older people have a stronger belief in the causal role played by alcohol in aggressive behavior. These results draw attention to the importance of the cognitive effect of personal involvement. Heavy drinking and aggressivity can prevent a person from recognizing the danger that drinking can have criminal consequences. This relationship can be used well in clinical and criminological practice of crime prevention strategy for patients treated with drinking problems and facing proceedings or condemned for criminal actions. The findings of the study also raise a theoretical consideration that the theory of social learning is not a sufficient explanatory model for the connections between drinking and aggression.

KEYWORDS: Aggression; Violence; Attitudes; Heavy drinking; Psychological studies; Hungary.

Az alkoholfogyasztás és erőszakos viselkedés hatása az alkoholfogyasztással összefüggő agresszióra vonatkozó hiedelmekre

E. Bácskai, I. Pintye, J. Gerevich

Psychiatria Hungarica, 2006, 21(1), 68–76.

ÖSSZEFOGLALÁS: A szerzők a személyes érintettség (alkoholívás, erőszakos viselkedés) hatását vizsgálták az alkohol és agresszió közötti kauzális összefüggésekkel kapcsolatos hiedelmekre. A vizsgálat a 18 évesnél idősebb lakosságot reprezentáló 1200 fős mintán történt. A mintaválasztás módszere kétlépcsős csoportos rétegzett mintavételi eljárás volt. A vizsgálat mérőmódszerei a Paglia és Room által alkalmazott alkohol-agresszió hiedelem kérdőív, a Buss és Perry Agresszió Kérdőív, valamint a nemre, életkorra és iskolai végzettségre vonatkozó szociodemográfiai jellemzők voltak. A többváltozós regressziós modellekkel végzett elemzések szerint az agresszív viselkedés, elsősorban a verbális és a fizikai agresszió, valamint a súlyos ivás jelentősen befolyásolja az alkohol-agresszió kauzális hiedelmet. Minél többet iszik és minél agresszívabb valaki, annál hajlamosabb arra, hogy ne higgyen abban a vélekedésben, hogy az alkohol agresszióhoz vezet. A nők és az idősebbek hisznek jobban az alkohol agresszióban betöltött oksági szerepében. Az eredmények felhívják a figyelmet a személyes érintettség kognitív hatásának jelentőségére. A súlyos alkoholívás és agresszivitás megakadályozhatja a személyt annak a veszélynek a felismerésében, hogy az ivás agresszív, kriminális következményekkel járhat. Ez az összefüggés jól alkalmazható a klinikai és kriminológiai gyakorlatban az alkoholproblémákkal kezelt, illetve bűncselekmény miatt eljárás alatt lévő, illetve elítélt páciensek bűnmegelőzési stratégiájában. A kutatás eredményei felvetik azt az elméleti megfontolást is, hogy a szociális tanulás elmélete nem elégséges magyarázó modell az alkoholfogyasztás és agresszió összefüggéseire.

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Switzerland

Volume and profile of alcohol consumption among students and classmates as predictors of aggression and victimization: A multilevel analysis among Swiss adolescents

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Sozial- und Präventivmedizin, 2006, 51(6), 363–372.

ABSTRACT: Objective: To test the effects of the volume of alcohol consumption and drinking patterns on alcohol-related aggression and victimization, both at the individual and class levels. **Methods:** Representative sample of 6,496 Swiss adolescents (aged 13 to 16 years) was drawn from the European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD). Hierarchical multi-level models were used to simultaneously estimate individual and environmental influences. In addition to indicators of consumption of alcohol and other substances, age, sex, socioeconomic indicators, and satisfaction with the relationship with parents were used as covariates. **Results:** After controlling for confounding, both volume of alcohol consumption and the frequency of binge drinking occasions were associated independently with alcohol-related problems (aggression/victimization) on the individual level. On the aggregate level, there was colinearity between volume of drinking and frequency of heavy drinking occasions. When entered in the same model, however, only the effect of volume stayed in the same direction. **Conclusions:** Not only individual volume of drinking, but also the way alcohol is consumed influences individual problem levels. This includes individual patterns of drinking, as well as environmental influences at school. These results open up important considerations for theory, research, and prevention.

KEYWORDS: Aggression; Social costs; Young people; Drinking patterns; Extreme/"Binge" drinking; Self-esteem; ESPAD; Prevention; Switzerland.

Volume et profil de consommation d'alcool des élèves et des camarades scolaires comme prédicateurs de l'agression et de la victimisation : Une analyse multiniveaux auprès d'adolescents suisses

J.-S. Fallu, J. Rehm, E. Kuntsche, E. Grichting, N. Monga, E. Adlaf, S. Bondy, G. Gmel

Sozial- und Präventivmedizin, 2006, 51(6), 363–372.

RÉSUMÉ : Objectif: Le présent article vise à vérifier l'effet indépendant du volume de consommation d'alcool et de la fréquence des beuveries (*binge episodes*), au niveau individuel et au niveau de la classe, sur les problèmes d'agressivité et de victimisation individuels attribués à la consommation d'alcool. **Méthode:** Les données proviennent d'adolescents suisses âgés de 13 à 16 ans dans le cadre de l'enquête ESPAD (N = 6496). Le devis de recherche est transversal et la stratégie analytique emploie une méthode hiérarchique qui mesure simultanément l'effet des dimensions individuelles et scolaires. Outre des indicateurs de consommation, l'âge, le sexe, le statut socioéconomique et la satisfaction de la relation avec les parents ont aussi été considérés. **Résultats:** En tenant compte de l'effet de plusieurs variables contrôles, les principaux résultats montrent que le volume de consommation et la fréquence des beuveries au niveau individuel sont reliés aux problèmes de consommation (agressivité/victimisation). Au niveau scolaire, le volume de consommation et la fréquence des beuveries sont aussi reliés positivement à ces problèmes mais, en vertu d'une colinéarité entre les deux variables, seul le volume de consommation demeure dans la même direction lorsque les deux sont incluses dans le même modèle. **Conclusion:** La présente étude confirme que non seulement le volume et la manière de boire sont reliés aux problèmes individuels, mais également l'environnement de consommation dans le milieu scolaire. Ces résultats présentent des pistes intéressantes pour la théorie, la recherche et la prévention.

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Drinking Patterns in Adult Population

France

Alcohol and moderation: Clarify consumer information

R. Nordmann

Bulletin de l'Académie Nationale de Médecine, 2006, 190(8), 1803–1807.

ABSTRACT: To reduce mean alcohol consumption by 20%—the aim defined in French public health legislation—it will be necessary to replace the present concept of “drink with moderation” by more explicit, quantitative indications. Indeed, this concept is vague and subjective, giving no concrete indication as to the quantity of alcohol that should never be exceeded. The “standard glass” is an unsatisfactory reference, being poorly defined and corresponding only to the glasses used in bars and restaurants. The National Academy of Medicine therefore recommends that prevention messages aimed at the general population indicate consumption thresholds in “units of alcohol” (one unit corresponding to 10 grams of ethanol) and no longer in “standard glasses.” To help the consumer visualize these thresholds, the Academy advocates systematic labeling of all alcoholic beverages with their content in “units of alcohol.” This labeling should be clearly legible. In addition, recommendations that these thresholds should never be exceeded should not be interpreted as meaning that alcohol consumption at lower levels is risk-free, especially in certain circumstances and for certain population subgroups.

KEYWORDS: National policies; Health education; Standard units; Labeling; Sensible drinking advice; Drinking patterns; France.

Alcool et modération : Clarifier l'information du consommateur

R. Nordmann

Bulletin de l'Académie Nationale de Médecine, 2006, 190(8), 1803–1807.

RÉSUMÉ : L'objectif de la loi de santé publique étant de réduire de 20 % d'ici 2008 la consommation annuelle d'alcool par habitant, il apparaît indispensable de remplacer par des données quantitatives le conseil trop flou et trop subjectif de « consommation avec modération ». Il ne donne, en effet, pas d'indication concrète sur la quantité d'alcool maximale à ne pas dépasser, en particulier en cas de consommation de plusieurs alcools différents. Le « verre standard » ne peut être considéré comme un étalon de référence satisfaisant, car il est mal défini et ne correspond qu'à la verrerie de la restauration. En conséquence, l'Académie nationale de médecine recommande d'exprimer, dans les messages de prévention destinés à la population générale, les seuils à ne pas dépasser non en « verres standard », mais en « unités alcool », une unité correspondant à dix grammes d'alcool. Pour permettre au consommateur de se situer aisément par rapport à ces seuils, elle préconise l'indication systématique du contenu en « unités alcool » sur l'étiquetage de tous les conditionnements de boissons alcooliques, et ceci de façon très lisible et quelle que soit la nature de la boisson considérée. Il convient cependant de souligner que la recommandation de ne dépasser en aucun cas les seuils définis dans les messages de prévention ne signifie nullement qu'une consommation inférieure à ces seuils est dénuée de tout risque, notamment dans certaines circonstances et pour certaines catégories de consommateurs.

Germany

“And then we finished the bottle”: Differences between Eastern European and Central European drinking habits, with regard to the attained intoxication during a drinking test (German-Russian drinking test)

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Blutalkohol, 2007, 44(3), 124–143.

ABSTRACT: In a “German-Russian” drinking test, the impact of different cultural settings on the consumption of alcohol and its intoxicating effects was measured. The sample was divided into two groups. Both groups were tested on: individual expected blood alcohol concentration (BAC), attained BAC, state at the end of drinking, and state the day after. One group drank in a “Russian” setting (rich food, vodka being the only alcoholic beverage, big glasses) (Russian group, N=20). The other group drank in a “German” setting, which included simple snacks and a choice of a variety of alcoholic beverages (German group, N=25). Both groups were equal in terms of age, gender, cultural background, and drinking habits. **Results:** Participants of the “Russian” group drank more alcohol and, accordingly, attained higher BAC than the participants of the “German” group. Seven out of the 8 people who reached a BAC of 1.3% or above belonged to the Russian group. Despite averaging higher BACs, the members of the Russian group did not feel more intoxicated than those of the German group. The negative effects on the day after the test were stronger in the German group than in the Russian group, even though the former had attained lower BACs. **Conclusions:** Assessment in centres for driving ability (Begutachtungsstellen für die Fahreignung) tends to rely on the BAC, measured at one single occasion, as a sufficient indicator to label the clients’ drinking habits. The “German-Russian” drinking test emphasises the importance of a careful diagnostic approach, to consider the individual circumstances of alcohol consumption, especially when dealing with clients from Eastern European countries.

KEYWORDS: Drinking patterns; Drunkenness; Cross-cultural studies; Immigrant populations; Alcohol-impaired driving; Germany; Russian Federation.

“Da haben wir Flasche ausgetrunken”: Zum Unterschied osteuropäischer und mitteleuropäischer Trinkkultur unter Bezugnahme auf die erreichte Alkoholisierung anlässlich eines Trinkversuches (Deutsch-Russischer Trinkversuch)

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Blutalkohol, 2007, 44(3), 124–143.

AUSZUG: Im Rahmen eines “deutsch-russischen” Trinkversuchs wurde der Einfluss unterschiedlicher kultureller Settings auf den Alkoholkonsum und dessen Auswirkungen bei zwei Gruppen überprüft. Gemessen wurden: Subjektiv erwartete BAK, Befindlichkeit bei Trinkende und am Folgetag in einer “russischen” Untersuchungsgruppe und einer “deutschen” Untersuchungsgruppe. Die russische Trinkvariante zeichnete sich durch üppiges Essen und Alkoholika nur in Form von reinem Wodka, getrunken aus Wassergläsern, aus (N = 20). Die deutsche Trinkvariante sah einfache kalte Speisen und diverse alkoholische Getränke zur Auswahl vor (N = 25). Beide Gruppen entstammen nach Alter, Geschlecht, kultureller Herkunft und Alkoholgewöhnung einer Grundgesamtheit. **Ergebnisse:** Die Teilnehmer der “russischen” Gruppe tranken mehr Alkohol und erzielten entsprechend höhere Blutalkoholkonzentrationen (BAK) als die nach “deutscher” Art Trinkenden. 7 der 8 Personen, die eine BAK von 1,3 und mehr Promille erreichten, entstammten der “russischen” Gruppe. Die Teilnehmer fühlten sich trotz durchschnittlich höherer BAK subjektiv nicht stärker alkoholisiert als die der “deutschen” Gruppe. Auch waren die negativen Auswirkungen am Folgetag stärker als bei der “deutschen” Gruppe, obwohl diese geringere BAK-Werte erreicht hatte. **Schlussfolgerungen:** In der Fahreignungsbegutachtung gilt vielfach ein punktuell erreichter BAK-Wert als alleiniger Indikator für die Zugehörigkeit zu einer bestimmten Konsumentengruppe (“Vieltrinker”). Der vorliegende Trinkversuch weist einmal mehr darauf hin, dass es für die Diagnostik unerlässlich ist, die situativen Bedingungen des Alkoholkonsums genau zu explorieren, gerade bei Probanden aus dem osteuropäischen Kulturkreis.

Italy

Changes in alcohol consumption in Italy: An analysis of the decreasing consumption in the period from 1970 to 2000

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Educazione Sanitaria e Promozione della Salute, 2007, 30(3), 229–237.

ABSTRACT: Italy is a “wet country” that has been traditionally characterized by high levels of alcohol consumption, although drinking has been decreasing continuously for the last 35 years. In fact, in the period between 1970 and 2005, annual consumption has dropped from more than 15.9 liters of pure alcohol to 6.9 liters per capita. Put against the backdrop of current discussion about instituting homogenous alcohol policies across the European Union, the Italian case is becoming increasingly more interesting: The Italian drop in alcohol consumption occurred while no specific alcohol policy was implemented. The aim of this study was to understand which factors may have produced such relevant reduction of alcohol consumption (in particular, in wine and spirits). Macro-social factors (demographic, food, and lifestyle changes) that could have a role in drinking behavior were examined. The qualitative part of the study was able to reconstruct the drinking careers of 117 males in order to understand how macrosocial factors and biographic events had influenced the reduction in alcohol consumption. The study provides a perspective to look at drinking changes in Italy and underlines the difficulty to understand this kind of social phenomenon without paying attention to the social and anthropological contexts. Also, the results suggest that, in order to plan alcohol policies, local specificities need to be considered.

Note from the authors: This analysis of the Italian alcohol consumption trends found a spontaneous self-regulation attitude among drinkers, not imposed by prohibitionist measures or laws, but rather shaped by the Mediterranean drinking pattern, which motivated the now aging Italians to drink less and better, compared to their own drinking in 1970s. Thus, after an adolescence more inclined toward alcohol abuse, people currently in their 40s returned to a more traditional and healthy pattern of alcohol consumption, thus limiting abuse.

KEYWORDS: Drinking patterns; Social change; Mediterranean drinking pattern; Alcohol policy; Italy.

I cambiamenti nei consumi di bevande alcoliche in Italia: Uno studio esplorativo sul decremento dei consumi negli anni 1970–2000

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Educazione Sanitaria e Promozione della Salute, 2007, 30(3), 229–237.

RIASSUNTO: L'Italia è un paese caratterizzato da una cultura del bere “bagnata,” ossia da un elevato consumo di bevande alcoliche prevalentemente integrato nei consumi alimentari e nelle occasioni sociali. Tuttavia i consumi di alcol puro, in particolare di vino, si sono dimezzati dal 1970 al 2005 (15,9 litri di alcol pro-capite a 6,9 litri), con un andamento decrescente costante. In un periodo di attiva discussione a livello europeo su come arginare i danni alla salute provocati dall'alcol promuovendo politiche comuni, il caso italiano è sicuramente di grande interesse proprio per la sua specificità; questa riduzione infatti si è verificata in totale assenza di specifiche politiche in tema di alcol. L'obiettivo di questo studio è quello di esplorare quali fattori possono aver influenzato la curva decrescente dei consumi alcolici in Italia esaminando le variabili macro-sociali (indicatori demografici, alimentari e relativi agli stili di vita) e gli andamenti dei consumi alcolici. Nella parte qualitativa sono state ricostruite le carriere alcoliche di 117 uomini di due coorti diverse al fine di comprendere come i fattori macrosociali e gli eventi della biografia personale abbiano inciso sulla riduzione dei consumi alcolici. La chiave di lettura del mutamento dei consumi di bevande alcoliche in Italia che questo lavoro offre ripropone l'impossibilità di comprendere i fenomeni estrapolandoli dalle culture e dalle condizioni sociali ed antropologiche nelle quali si inseriscono e si evolvono e suggerisce la necessità che in sede di elaborazione di politiche si tenga in considerazione il quadro specifico della singola realtà.

Russian Federation

How much does Russia drink? Volume, dynamics, and differentiation of alcohol consumption

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Sotsiologicheskie Issledovaniya, 2006, 13(2), 85–94. Full text is available (in Russian): <http://www.ecsocman.edu.ru/socis/msg/301263.html>.

ABSTRACT: This study investigated standards, dynamics, and differentiation in alcohol consumption, as well as social demographic aspects of excessive drinking in the Russian Federation from 1994 through 2002. The data originate in official statistics and the Russian Longitudinal Monitoring Survey (RLMS). The RLMS original data were corrected by weighing them up. The following features of alcohol consumption have been ascertained as outstanding: high level of per capita alcohol consumption, accompanied by its intensive growth. Composition of consumption is changing with regard to both strong and weak drinks. Alcohol consumers tend to increasingly differentiate by amount of consumption, and there is a steady and marked increase of excessive alcohol consumers.

KEYWORDS: Drinking patterns; Beverage preference; Alcohol abuse; Sociodemographic factors; Population study; Russian Federation.

Сколько пьет Россия? Объем, динамика и дифференциация потребления алкоголя

В. С. Тапилина

Социологические исследования, 2006, 13(2), 85–94.

КРАТКОЕ СОДЕРЖАНИЕ: Цель данной статьи состоит в том, чтобы получить более точную картину масштабов и динамики потребления алкоголя в современной России. В статье рассматриваются результаты исследования объема, структуры, динамики и дифференциации потребления алкоголя населением Российской Федерации в 1994–2002 гг., а также социально-демографические аспекты неумеренного потребления алкоголя. Источниками служат материалы общенационального обследования—Российского мониторинга экономического положения и здоровья населения, репрезентирующего население страны в целом, а также статистические данные.

Slovenia

Alcohol consumption and indicators of alcohol-related harm in Slovenia, 1981–2002

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Croatian Medical Journal, 2004, 45(4), 466–472. Full text is available (in English): <http://www.cmj.hr/2004/45/4/4504.htm>.

ABSTRACT: **Aim:** To document per capita alcohol consumption and its connection to indicators of short- and long-term alcohol-related harm over time. **Methods:** Registered alcohol consumption was calculated from the data on production and trade of alcoholic beverages, using World Health Organization recommended methodology for the 1981–2002 period. The indicators of alcohol-related harm, alcohol-related mortality, and alcohol-related road traffic accidents were calculated from mortality data and alcohol-related traffic accidents data for the 1986–2001 period. **Results:** Estimates of apparent per capita alcohol consumption in Slovenia over the past 20 years indicate a decrease in alcohol consumption beginning in 1982 and continuing with some fluctuations in subsequent years through 2002. Per capita consumption of ethanol from all beverages combined decreased from 1981 to 2002 by 15.1%. The drop was substantial in the period from 1981 to 1991. On average, 32 people per 100,000 aged 15 years or over died annually from alcohol-related causes. The number of years of potential life lost (YPLL) due to all alcohol-related causes decreased by 21%, with a 40% decrease in YPLL due to premature deaths from alcoholic liver disease, and a 113% increase in YPLL due to premature deaths from mental and behavioral disorders linked to alcohol use. **Conclusion:** Indicators of alcohol-related harm reflect high per capita alcohol consumption. With a strong legislative and public health support the situation is expected to improve.

KEYWORDS: Drinking patterns; Per capital alcohol consumption; Health outcomes; Mortality; Slovenia.

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Extreme/"Binge" Drinking

Belarus

Alcohol and suicides: Population level of correlation

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Zhurnal Nevropatologii i Psikiatrii Imeni S. S. Korsakova, 2004, 104(2), 48–52.

ABSTRACT: Background: Alcohol abuse has long been considered an important factor of suicidal behavior. Moreover, fluctuations in drinking have often been put forward as a major factor in the large decline in suicide rate in the former Soviet Republics in the mid-1980s, followed by a dramatic increase in the 1990s. The main evidence for this hypothesis is the fact that a positive correlation between alcohol consumption levels and suicide rate has been found. The empirical evidence, however, leads us to the hypothesis that it may not be the total level of alcohol consumption but intoxication-oriented drinking pattern that is the most important factor in alcohol and suicide association. **Purpose and Method:** To test this hypothesis, trends in beverage-specific alcohol sales per capita and sex and age standardized suicide rates from 1980 to 2005 in Belarus were analyzed, employing the ARIMA time series analysis. **Results:** The relationship between alcohol and suicide was stronger for vodka sales relative to total level of alcohol sales. The analysis suggests that a 1% increase in vodka consumption per capita would result in a 0.57% increase in suicide rate among men, and a 0.24% increase in suicide rate among women. **Conclusion:** This study replicates previous findings from other settings that suggest that suicide rates tend to be more responsive to changes in distilled spirits consumption per capita than to the total level of alcohol consumption. Given the predominant pattern of spirits consumption in Belarus, it may be assumed that drinking spirits in this sample was usually associated with intoxication episodes. In this light, this study's findings provide additional evidence that drinking pattern is an important determinant in the alcohol-suicide relationship. The outcome of this study also supports the hypothesis that alcohol-related suicide is mainly a male phenomenon.

KEYWORDS: Extreme/"Binge" drinking; Drinking patterns; Suicide; Beverage preference; Belarus.

Алкоголь и суициды в Беларуси: популяционный уровень взаимосвязи

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Журнал неврологии и психиатрии им. С.С. Корсакова, 2004, 104(2), 48–52.

КРАТКОЕ СОДЕРЖАНИЕ: Злоупотребление алкоголем является важным фактором суицидального поведения. Более того, колебания уровня потребления алкоголя часто называются в качестве основной причины резкого снижения уровня суицидов в бывших Советских республиках в середине 1980-х годов и последующего резкого их роста в 1990-х. Основным подтверждением данной гипотезы служит тот факт, что была установлена положительная корреляция между уровнем потребления алкоголя и уровнем суицидов. Эмпирические данные позволяют предположить, что наиболее важным фактором во взаимосвязи между алкоголем и суицидами является не общий уровень его потребления, а паттерн потребления. С целью проверки данной гипотезы в настоящем исследовании проведен сравнительный анализ временных серий (метод АРПСС) уровня продажи различных алкогольных напитков на душу населения и уровня половых и возрастных коэффициентов суицидов в Беларуси в период с 1981 по 2004 годы. Анализ временных серий показал, что уровень суицидов более тесно связан с уровнем продажи водки, нежели с общим уровнем продажи алкоголя. Согласно полученным коэффициентам регрессии увеличение уровня продажи водки на 1% сопровождается ростом уровня суицидов на 0,57% среди мужчин и на 0,24% среди женщин. Результаты настоящего исследования согласуются с результатами предыдущих работ, в которых было показано, что уровень суицидов в большей степени ассоциируется с уровнем продажи крепких алкогольных напитков, нежели с общим уровнем продажи алкоголя. Учитывая то обстоятельство, что в Беларуси употребление больших доз крепких алкогольных напитков за короткий промежуток времени является типичным стилем потребления алкоголя, результаты настоящего исследования свидетельствуют в пользу того, что интоксикационно-ориентированный паттерн потребления крепких алкогольных напитков является важной детерминантой во взаимосвязи между алкоголем и суицидом. Результаты настоящего исследования также свидетельствуют в пользу гипотезы, согласно которой алкогольный суицид является преимущественно мужским феноменом.

France

Drinking among students: Preliminary results of a survey in a Paris university

L. Simmat-Durand

Alcoologie et Addictologie, 2008, 30(2), 165–172.

ABSTRACT: Students constitute a population particularly exposed to excessive “binge” drinking, associated with their social life. However, detailed studies on university students, according to gender, the discipline studied, and their social origin are rare. **Method:** A representative sample of students from a Paris university was surveyed by self-administered questionnaire during lectures. This sample comprised 875 first-year and second-year students in five main disciplines: medicine, pharmacy, law, psychology, and sociology. **Results:** Nine out of ten students had drunk alcohol at least once and eight out of ten had drunk alcohol during the previous year, with no differences according to gender. Abstinent, very occasional, or very light drinkers (drinking less than two glasses less than once a month) were more frequently female, while moderate drinkers (drinking an average of three to four glasses less than once a week, or six or more glasses less than once a month) and heavy drinkers (drinking four times or more per week, more than four glasses per occasion; or having six glasses or more at any one occasion, more than once a month) were more frequently male. Students with a working-class father were twice as likely to be abstinent as the mean (but were mostly females), and the fathers of heavy drinkers were significantly more frequently executives. Nonabstinent students reported an average of 3.4 episodes of drunkenness during the last year, but with very marked differences according to gender, discipline, social origin, and lifestyle (going out to a discotheque, restaurant, cafe, sports games).

KEYWORDS: Extreme/“Binge” drinking; Young adults; University drinking; Drunkenness; Drinking patterns; Gender comparison; Social class; Family history; France.

Consommations d’alcool chez les étudiants : Résultats préliminaires d’une enquête dans une université parisienne

L. Simmat-Durand

Alcoologie et Addictologie, 2008, 30(2), 165–172.

RÉSUMÉ : Les étudiants sont un groupe particulièrement exposé aux consommations excessives ponctuelles d’alcool, qui rythment leur mode de vie tourné vers les sorties. Les études approfondies—différenciées suivant le genre, la discipline étudiée et l’origine sociale—les concernant sont néanmoins rares. **Méthode :** un échantillon représentatif des étudiants d’une université parisienne a été enquêté par auto-questionnaire durant des cours, soit 875 étudiants de première et deuxième année, selon cinq grandes disciplines : médecine, pharmacie, droit, psychologie et sociologie. **Résultats :** neuf étudiants sur dix ont consommé au moins une fois une boisson alcoolisée et huit sur dix l’ont fait au cours de l’année écoulée, sans différence de genre. Les consommateurs abstinentes, très ponctuels ou de très faible quantité (moins de deux verres moins d’une fois par mois) sont néanmoins plus fréquemment des femmes, alors que les consommateurs modérés (trois à quatre verres en moyenne moins d’une fois par semaine ou ponctuellement six verres ou plus moins d’une fois par mois) ou les gros buveurs (quatre fois ou plus par semaine, plus de quatre verres à chaque fois ou six verres ou plus en une occasion plus d’une fois par mois) sont plutôt des hommes. Les étudiants de père ouvrier sont deux fois plus souvent abstinentes que la moyenne (mais ce sont surtout des femmes) et les gros buveurs ont significativement plus souvent un père cadre. En moyenne, les étudiants non abstinentes ont déclaré 3,4 ivresses au cours de l’année passée, mais avec des écarts très sensibles selon le genre, la discipline d’inscription, leur origine sociale et leur mode de vie (sorties en discothèque, au restaurant, au café, pratique d’un sport).

Poland

Opinions of academic youth on alcohol as an addictive substance

B. Fedyn

Roczniki Państwowego Zakładu Higieny, 2006, 57(Suppl.), 107–112.

ABSTRACT: The article presents results of a survey of university students' opinions on alcohol as an addictive substance. A questionnaire, developed for the program, "Institutions of Higher Education, Free of Addictions," was used to collect the necessary empirical data. The analysis of collected material indicates a disturbing phenomenon of low awareness among students about the addictive properties of alcohol and high tolerance for risky behaviors, such as frequent drinking, frequent consumption of large quantities of alcohol, and getting drunk. The results of this study support the need of prevention and intervention programs in the institutions of higher education.

KEYWORDS: Extreme/"Binge" drinking; Young adults; University drinking; Beverage preference; Attitudes; Poland.

Opinie młodzieży akademickiej na temat alkoholu jako substancji uzależniającej

B. Fedyn

Roczniki Państwowego Zakładu Higieny, 2006, 57(Suppl.), 107–112.

SKRÓT: W artykule przedstawiono wyniki badań na temat podmiotowych uwarunkowań zachowań dotyczących spożycia alkoholu przez młodzież akademicką. Skupiono się na rozpoznaniu opinii studentów na temat uznania alkoholu za środek uzależniający, poznaniu oceny zachowań dotyczących spożywania alkoholu w środowisku akademickim oraz zdiagnozowaniu opinii badanych na temat ryzyka zachowań związanych z określoną częstotliwością i ilością spożywanego alkoholu.

Poland

Name-day parties: Social factor shaping patterns of ethanol poisonings

B. Jenner⁷

Przegląd Lekarski, 2005, 62(6), 608–611. Full text is available (in Polish): www.poltox.net/docs/pdf2005/608.pdf.

ABSTRACT: Name-day parties are a feature of the Polish culture. Alcohol beverages are often served at these events. This paper finds a positive correlation between the popularity of a name celebrated on a given day and the number of ethanol poisonings. Moreover, the popularity of a name celebrated on a given day is also associated with the average age of ethanol-poisoned patients. This association is mediated by gender and, for men, a day of the week. On days of popular names, poisoned women tend to be middle-aged. If popular name-days happen on a week day, poisoned men tend to be older.

KEYWORDS: Extreme/"Binge" drinking; Drinking patterns; Alcohol poisoning; Celebratory drinking; Poland.

Imieniny: Czynniki socjologiczne kształtujące zjawisko zatrucia etanolem

B. Jenner

Przegląd Lekarski, 2005, 62(6), 608–611.

SKRÓT: Elementem obyczajowości polskiej jest obchodzenie imienin. Z tej okazji solenizanci organizują spotkania towarzyskie w trakcie których, pity jest alkohol. W niniejszej pracy wykazano, że dni popularnych imienin są okolicznością, której towarzyszy wzrost liczby przypadków zatrucia etanolem. Modyfikowana przez czynniki płci i dni tygodnia popularność imienin wpływa też na średni wiek zatrutych. W dni popularnych imienin przypadających niezależnie od dnia tygodnia do Kliniki Toksykologii trafiają kobiety o niższym średnim wieku. Jeśli jednak dni popularnych imienin przypadają w środku tygodnia to zatruci etanolem mężczyźni są przeciętnie starsi.

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Spain

Cognitive aspects of *botellón* drinking

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Psicothema, 2008, 20(3), 396–402. Full text is available (in Spanish): <http://www.psicothema.com/psicothema.asp?id=3498>.

ABSTRACT: This paper aimed to explore causes of *botellón*⁹ drinking in young people and the effects they seek from alcohol, based on age and alcohol intake. Four thousand eighty-three questionnaires were administered to 1,361 university students and 2,722 adolescents at their educational institutions. The findings corresponding to those who reported practicing *botellón* drinking—2,917 subjects—are presented in the paper. Taking into account the regularity of the practice and the alcohol intake, cluster analysis differentiated two consumer types in each age group: the radical type (21.2% university students; 18.2% adolescents), consuming 10 to 11 drinks 3 days a week, for more than 10 months a year; and the average type (78.7% university students; 81.7% adolescents), drinking 4 to 5 drinks twice a week, for 8 to 9 months. Drinking as a way of having fun (75.2%) and “drinking for the sake of drinking” (81.9%) were two of the main motivations underlying *botellón* alcohol consumption, economical reasons being secondary for adolescents. As for the expected effects, the short-term positive aspects of moderate drinking (e.g., being more talkative, feeling euphoric) stood out; adolescents also expected to improve some of their social skills (e.g., gain more self-confidence). These results corroborate and enhance the information currently available and allow us to propose alternatives adapted to young people’s real needs.

KEYWORDS: Extreme/“Binge” drinking; Public drinking; Young adults; Adolescents; Motivation; Expectancies; Social skills; Spain.

Aspectos cognitivos relacionados con la practica del botellón

M. T. Cortés Tomás, B. Espejo Tort, J. A. Giménez Costa

Psicothema, 2008, 20(3), 396–402.

RESUMEN: El presente estudio analiza los motivos de los jóvenes para realizar botellón y consumir alcohol en el mismo, y los efectos que esperan tras este consumo, en función de la edad e ingesta realizada. Se elaboró una encuesta que cumplimentaron 4.083 jóvenes (1.361 universitarios-2.722 adolescentes) en sus centros docentes, presentándose datos de los 2.917 que hacen botellón. Un análisis de conglomerados, en función de la regularidad de la conducta y la cantidad de alcohol consumida, muestra dos tipos de consumidores en cada grupo: radicales (21.2% universitarios-18.2% adolescentes): ingieren 10–11 consumiciones, 3 días a la semana y más de 10 meses al año, y medios (78.7% universitarios-81.7% adolescentes): 4–5 consumiciones, 2 veces por semana y durante 8–9 meses. La diversión (75.2%) y el consumo en sí mismo (81.9%) figuran entre los motivos principales por los que realizan botellón, ocupando la economía un lugar secundario entre adolescentes. Entre los efectos esperados destacan los aspectos positivos a corto plazo derivados del consumo moderado (más hablador, euforia), siendo los adolescentes quienes además esperan mejorar algunas de sus habilidades personales (mayor confianza en sí mismos). Estos resultados permiten corroborar y ampliar la información disponible y plantear alternativas ajustadas a las necesidades reales de los jóvenes.

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9 A phenomenon in Spain and, recently, other countries (e.g., Switzerland): an informal street gatherings, mainly of young people, to drink and socialize.

Spain

Botellón and consumption of alcohol and other drugs in youth

J. A. Gómez-Fraguela,¹⁰ N. Fernández Pérez, E. Romero Triñanes, M. A. Luengo Martín

Psicothema, 2008, 20(2), 211–217. Full text is available (in Spanish): <http://www.psicothema.com/psicothema.asp?id=3450>.

ABSTRACT: This paper sought to analyze the relationship between *botellón* involvement (meetings of young people in public places to drink and socialize) with alcohol/other drug abuse and vandalism. A school survey was delivered in centers of Compulsory Secondary School (E.S.O.), high school, professional training, and University education in Lugo, northwestern Spain. The sample (young people aged 12 to 30 years) was split into three groups according to alcohol use and *botellón* involvement; drug abuse, drug-related problems, and vandalism were assessed in each group. Regular *botellón* attendants displayed more problems with alcohol and other drugs and higher involvement in vandalism than their counterparts who either did not take part in *botellón* or did so rarely; this relationship was stronger among younger respondents. The increase in adolescent risk associated with the practice of the *botellón* can be explained by peer group pressure to use drugs and the greater accessibility of alcohol/other drugs in *botellón* settings.

KEYWORDS: Extreme/"Binge" drinking; Young adults; Adolescents; Underage drinking; Drinking patterns; Drug abuse; Vandalism; Spain.

El botellón y el consumo de alcohol y otras drogas en la juventud

J. A. Gómez-Fraguela, N. Fernández Pérez, E. Romero Triñanes, M. A. Luengo Martín

Psicothema, 2008, 20(2), 211–217.

RESUMEN: El objetivo de este trabajo es analizar la relación existente entre la participación en el botellón (reuniones de jóvenes en espacios públicos para beber, charlar, etc.), el abuso de alcohol y otras drogas y la realización de conductas vandálicas en jóvenes. Para ello se ha realizado una encuesta escolar en centros educativos de Secundaria, Bachillerato, ciclos de Formación Profesional y Universidad en la ciudad de Lugo. La muestra, de edades comprendidas entre los 12 y los 30 años, fue dividida en tres grupos en función de su consumo de alcohol y la participación en el botellón, y se analizó el nivel de abuso de drogas, los problemas asociados con esos abusos y el grado de implicación en actos vandálicos. Los resultados muestran que aquellos que participan habitualmente en el botellón presentan mayores problemas con el alcohol y otras drogas. Son también los que más actos vandálicos realizan. Esa relación se observa con mayor intensidad en los estudiantes más jóvenes. El incremento del riesgo en los adolescentes asociado a la práctica del botellón es explicado por la presión del grupo de amigos hacia el consumo y por la mayor accesibilidad al alcohol y otras drogas en estos contextos.

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Motivations and Expectancies

Czech Republic

Attitudes toward the functions of alcoholic beverages and the relationship of these attitudes with the drinking behavior of adult men and women: A prospective study

L. Kubička¹¹

Československá Psychologie, 2006, 50(1), 36–49.

ABSTRACT: The study is based on data collected during a ten-year prospective monitoring (divided into three data collection periods) of 566 male and 468 female current drinkers. Regressive analysis and the structural equation modeling method were used to analyze the relationship between attitudes of individuals toward the alimentary, social, sedative, and intoxicating functions of alcohol, on the hand, and three indicators of consumption, on the other (frequency of use, normal quantity consumed, and frequency of use for high doses of alcohol). The results supported a hypothesis stating that the stability of consumption indicators across age groups depends on attitudinal consumption, or that partial correlation of consumption indicators across age groups of polled participants was significantly lower during attitudinal effect checks than correlation without attitudinal checks. Regressive analysis of attitudinal predictors of changes in consumption indicators showed that each of the three consumption aspects studied was connected with a different configuration of attitudinal predictors: frequency of use change predictor is an attitude towards the alimentary function, change predictors in the normal quantity consumed are attitudes towards the social and intoxicating functions of alcohol, frequency of use for high doses (over 120 ml of ethanol) of alcohol are attitudes towards the sedative and intoxicating functions. Construction of non-recursive structural models supported a hypothesis of positive feedback between specific attitudes and specific consumption aspects. Results pertinent to attitudinal use of high doses of alcohol could contribute to psychological clarification of the transition from risky alcohol consumption to alcohol dependency syndrome.

KEYWORDS: Expectancies; Attitudes; Prospective study; Gender comparison; Drinking patterns; Czech Republic.

Postoje k funkcím alkoholického nápoje a jejich vztah ke konzumnímu chování dospělých mužů a žen: Prospektivní studie

L. Kubička

Československá Psychologie, 2006, 50(1), 36–49.

SOUHRN: Práce se opírá o data z desetiletého prospektivního sledování (o těchto datových vlnách) 566 mužů a 468 žen, konzumentů alkoholických nápojů. Regresními analýzami a modelováním metodou strukturálních rovnic byly analyzovány vztahy mezi postoji jedinců k alimentární, sociální, sedativní a orgiastické (intoxikační) funkci alkoholu na jedné straně a těmi ukazateli konzumu na straně druhé (frekvencí úzu, obvykle konzumovanou kvantitou a frekvencí konzumu vysokých dávek alkoholu). Výsledky podpořily hypotézu, že stabilita konzumních ukazatelů napříč věkem je ovlivněna o postojové zakotvení konzumu, nebo parciální korelace konzumních ukazatelů napříč věkem dotázaných byly při kontrole efektu postojů podstatně nižší než korelace bez postojové kontroly. Regresní analýzy postojových prediktorů změny konzumních ukazatelů ukázaly, že každý ze tří sledovaných aspektů konzumu je spojen s jinou konfigurací postojových prediktorů: Prediktorem změny frekvence úzu je postoj k alimentární funkci, prediktory změny v obvykle konzumované kvantitě jsou postoje k sociální a orgiastické funkci alkoholu, prediktory četnosti úzu vysokých dávek (více než 120 ml etanolu) jsou postoje k sedativní a orgiastické funkci. Konstrukce nerekurzivních strukturálních modelů podpořila hypotézu pozitivních vzájemných vazeb mezi specifickými postoji a specifickými aspekty konzumu. Výsledky týkající se postojového zakotvení úzu vysokých dávek alkoholu by mohly přispět k psychologickému objasnění přechodu od rizikového konzumu k syndromu závislosti na alkoholu.

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Hungary

Boredom or coping with stress? Study of adolescents' smoking- and alcohol-related motives

B. Píró¹²

Addictologia Hungarica, 2004, 2, 191–202. Full text is available (in Hungarian): http://www.addiktologia.hu/article_pdf/103.pdf.

ABSTRACT: Among the background variables of adolescent smoking and drinking, motives occupy a special place. Both alcohol and cigarettes are legal substances that are symbolic of adulthood for youth; therefore, the motivation to try them is particularly strong. The main goal of this study was to analyze the most significant reasons to smoke and drink among adolescents (social motives, coping, self-enhancement, and boredom relief) in the light of their substance-user status. The sample consisted of 602 high school students in Szeged, Hungary; the questionnaire was self-administered and anonymous. Apart from descriptive statistics, logistic regression analysis was used to detect odds ratios of the motivational attitudes by gender. Social motives to drink and smoke were dominant in both sexes; for alcohol use, no other motive was as significant. In terms of smoking, apart from the social motives, the role of boredom relief was notable. In addition, coping was also a significant motive to smoke among girls. Mapping motives holds an important message for prevention programs, as further described at the end of the study.

KEYWORDS: Motivation; Adolescents; Alcohol; Smoking; Gender comparison; Hungary.

Unalom vagy stresszoldás? Serdülők dohányzással és alkoholfogyasztással kapcsolatos motivációinak vizsgálata

B. Píró

Addictologia Hungarica, 2004, 2, 191–202.

ÖSSZEFOGLALÁS: A serdülőkori dohányzás és alkoholfogyasztás háttértényezőinek sorában a motivációk különös helyet foglalnak el. Mind az alkohol, mind pedig a cigaretta ugyanis legális szer, amely a fiatalok számára a felnőtté válás szimbólumát hordozza, kipróbálásuk iránt ezért igen nagy a bennük motiváció. Jelen vizsgálat célja, hogy a serdülők dohányzással és alkoholfogyasztással kapcsolatos leggyakoribb motivációit (társas hatások, coping, énmegerősítés, illetve unaloműzés) elemezze a serdülők szerfogyasztási státusának tükrében. A mintát 602 szegedi középiskolás alkotta, a kérdőív önkitöltéses és anonim volt. A leíró statisztika mellett logisztikus regresszió segítségével történt a motivációs attitűdök esélyhányadosainak kiszámítása nemek szerint. A társas motivációk domináns attitűdöt jelentenek mindkét nem és szer esetében. Az alkoholfogyasztással kapcsolatban más motiváció szerepe nem is igazolható. A dohányzással kapcsolatban a társas hatások mellett az unaloműzés is jelentős, a lányok esetében pedig a coping funkció is igazolható. A motivációk ismerete a megelőző programok számára fontos üzenetet hordozhat, amely a tanulmány végén részletes kifejtésre kerül.

Hungary

Risk perception in adolescence: Illusion of invulnerability or sober foresight?

B. Pikó¹³

Addictologia Hungarica, 2007, 1, 5–18.

ABSTRACT: A deeper understanding of factors influencing risk perception may help in the prevention of health-risk behaviors and other health hazards. Therefore, the main goal of the present study was to map adolescents' risk perception. Estimates of smoking, alcohol-related illnesses, and accidents were the focus of the analysis. The survey was administered among high school students in Szeged, Hungary (N = 560, aged between 14 and 19 years). The self-administered questionnaire included items on sociodemographics, risk perception, health-risk behaviors, and certain psychological variables. Gender was a factor that increased the probability of risk perception in terms of alcohol-related illnesses—that is, male respondents evaluated themselves as being at higher risk for these illnesses. Smokers, alcohol drinkers, and reckless drivers evaluated themselves as being at higher risk for substance-related illnesses and accidents than those who did not report such behaviors. Individuals who normally used seat belts, however, estimated an equal amount of road traffic injuries risk to respondents who did not normally use seat belts. Among the psychological variables, hostility elevated—whereas satisfaction with life and future-orientation decreased—the levels of risk perception. Thus, in prevention programs, personality development is crucial.

KEYWORDS: Expectancies; Adolescents; Risk perception; Hostility; Future-orientation; Satisfaction with life; Hungary.

Kockázatészlelés serdülőkorban: A sérthetlenség illúziója vagy józan előrelátás?

B. Pikó

Addictologia Hungarica, 2007, 1, 5–18.

ÖSSZEFOGLALÁS: A kockázatészlelést befolyásoló tényezők mélyebb megismerése segítséget nyújthat a káros szenvedélyek és egyéb egészségkockázatok megelőzéséhez. Jelen tanulmányunk célja ezért a serdülőkorú fiatalok kockázatészlelésének megismerése volt, nevezetesen a dohányzással, illetve alkoholfogyasztással összefüggő megbetegedések, valamint a balesetek bekövetkezésként vélt becslését helyeztük elemzésünk középpontjába. Felmérésünket szegedi középiskolások (N=560, 14–19 évesek) körében végeztük. Az önkitöltéses kérdőív kiterjedt a szociodemográfiai változókon túl a kockázatészlelés, a kockázati magatartásformák, valamint néhány pszichológiai jellemző felmérésére. A nem egyedül az alkohollal összefüggő megbetegedéseknél jelentkezett kockázatészlelést növelő tényezőként, azaz a fiúk nagyobb valószínűséggel számítanak ilyen jellegű megbetegedésekre. A dohányzók, az alkoholt fogyasztók és a figyelmetlenül közlekedők nagyobb kockázattal számolnak a szerfogyasztással összefüggő betegségek megjelenésével, illetve balesetek bekövetkeztével, mint azok, akikre az adott magatartás nem jellemző. A biztonsági övet viselők közel egyenlő mértékű kockázatot becsülnék a balesetek bekövetkezése terén azokkal, akik nem viselik azt. A pszichológiai jellemzők közül az ellenségesség növeli, az étellel való elégedettség és a jövőorientáltság csökkenti a kockázatbecslés mértékét. A prevenció programokban ezért a személyiségfejlesztés központi jelentőségű.

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Road Safety

Austria

Young people's attitudes toward alcohol, drugs, and road traffic in Austria

B. Schuetzhofer, D. Inwanschitz, F. Lager, K. Wiener

Blutalkohol, 2004, 41(3), 210–233.

ABSTRACT: Several studies demonstrate that young people first come into contact with alcohol and drugs at a very early age. The aim of the present study was to investigate young people's attitudes toward driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs and other traffic violations. In cooperation with the school authorities, a representative sample of Austrian students were given a standardized questionnaire on a wide range of road traffic safety issues, attitudes toward alcohol and drugs, and views on their influence on road traffic safety. The result supports the assumption that young people aged 14 to 19 years do in fact have various implicit theories about the main causes for road traffic accidents. The Mixed-Rasch-Model analysis indicated the presence of four latent classes, which roughly correspond to attitude styles known by psychologists and teachers in this field. First results concerning the effect of these implicit theories on traffic-related attitudes and young people's hazard perception are presented. These results are discussed in the light of possible modifications of current road traffic safety education programs.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Young adults; Alcohol-impaired driving; Road safety; Attitudes; Interventions; Austria.

Einstellungen Jugendlicher bezüglich Alkohol, Drogen und Straßenverkehr in Österreich

B. Schuetzhofer, D. Inwanschitz, F. Lager, K. Wiener

Blutalkohol, 2004, 41(3), 210–233.

AUSZUG: Es gibt viele Studien, die darauf hinweisen, dass Jugendliche bereits frueh Erfahrungen mit Alkohol und Drogen machen. Ziel dieser Studie war es, zu untersuchen, welche Einstellungen die Jugendlichen zu Alkohol und Drogen am Steuer sowie zu verschiedenen anderen Verkehrsdelikten haben. In Zusammenarbeit mit den zustaendigen Schulbehoerden wurde einer repraesentativen Schuelerstichprobe ein umfangreicher Fragebogen vorgelegt, der unterschiedliche Aspekte der Verkehrssicherheit erfasste. Die Ergebnisse zeigen, dass Jugendliche zwischen 14 und 19 Jahren unterschiedliche implizite Theorien ueber Ursachen von Verkehrsunfaellen haben. Eine Analyse der Daten mit dem Mixed Rasch Model erbrachte vier latente Klassen, denen inhaltlich Einstellungen zugeordnet werden koennen, wie sie beispielsweise von praktisch taetigen Verkehrspsychologen und -paedagogen beschrieben werden. Darueber hinaus werden erste Ergebnisse zum Effekt dieser impliziten Theorien auf verkehrsrelevante Einstellungen und zur Gefahrenwahrnehmung der Jugendlichen berichtet. Die Ergebnisse werden im Licht moeglicher Modifikationen der derzeitigen Verkehrserziehung diskutiert.

France

Alcohol-related accident risk perception by young drivers: Some determinants of comparative optimism

P. Causse, D. R. Kouabenan, P. Delhomme

Le Travail Humain, 2004, 67(3), 235–256.

ABSTRACT: This study aimed to investigate the factors influencing alcohol-related accident risk perception. In particular, it examined the effects on comparative optimism (CO) of variables such as: comparative subjective control, perceived ability to drive after drinking, direct and indirect experience of accidents, and estimates of alcohol as the cause of road accidents. Study participants (86 young drivers) were invited to read an alcohol consumption and driving scenario and then answer a number of questions using a 7-point Likert scale. The questions related to the assessment of their own probability of becoming involved in an accident in such a situation in comparison with that of an average driver, their comparative feeling of control and probable behavior in such a situation, their perception of alcohol consumption and driving, their accident history in such a situation either as a driver or as a passenger, and, finally, their assessment of the frequency of alcohol as a theme of safety campaigns. We also examined those events that led participants to alter their driving behavior after drinking. Results showed that comparative subjective control and CO were positively correlated. The more participants assessed they had control over the situation in relation to others, the more they felt that they were able to drive in a drunken state and were less likely to become involved in an accident than others in the same situation. Moreover, participants who had already been involved in an accident in that situation exhibited more CO than those who had never experienced an accident in that same situation. Similarly, those people whose alcohol consumption was positively controlled felt that they were less at risk than others of having an alcohol-related accident. In contrast, knowing close relatives who have had an accident in the same situation or whose alcohol consumption had been positively controlled did not affect participants' CO. Furthermore, those participants who considered that alcohol consumption was a topic frequently tackled by road safety campaigns felt that alcohol was a frequent cause of accidents and tended to show less CO.

KEYWORDS: Alcohol-impaired driving; Risk perception; Expectancies; Comparative optimism; Road safety; Young adults; France.

Perception du risque d'accident lié à l'alcool chez des jeunes automobilistes : Quelques déterminants de l'optimisme comparatif

P. Causse, D. R. Kouabenan, P. Delhomme

Le Travail Humain, 2004, 67(3), 235–256.

RÉSUMÉ : On examine les évaluations comparatives de 86 jeunes automobilistes quant à leur risque d'être impliqués dans un accident alors qu'ils ont un taux d'alcoolémie supérieur à celui qui est toléré en tenant compte des variables (contrôle subjectif comparatif, capacité perçue à conduire en ayant dépassé le taux légal d'alcool, expérience directe et indirecte de l'accident, et évaluation de l'alcool au volant comme cause d'accident). Les participants prennent connaissance d'un scénario qui présente une situation dans laquelle ils auraient consommé de l'alcool et doivent ensuite rentrer à leur domicile en voiture. Après quoi, on leur demande de répondre à une série de questions relatives aux variables ci-dessus. On observe que plus les participants estiment avoir davantage de contrôle qu'autrui face à l'alcool au volant et plus ils manifestent d'optimisme comparatif dans cette situation. De plus, ceux qui ont une expérience directe d'accident dans cette situation et/ou ont été contrôlés positivement par la police lors d'un alcooltest manifestent davantage d'optimisme comparatif que ceux qui n'ont jamais eu d'accident ou qui n'ont jamais été contrôlés dans cette situation. Enfin, plus le thème de l'alcool au volant est considéré comme étant fréquemment abordé par les campagnes de prévention, plus l'alcool au volant est considéré comme une cause fréquente d'accident, moins les participants manifestent de l'optimisme comparatif.

Poland

Fatal traffic accidents versus alcohol consumption in the victims in the archival material collected by the Institute of Forensic Medicine, Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University in Cracow, in the years 2000–2003

M. Klys, S. Grzeszczuk, T. Majchrzak

Archiwum Medycyny Sądowej i Kryminologii, 2006, 56(2), 80–85.

ABSTRACT: This study focused on fatal traffic accidents, emphasizing in particular blood alcohol levels in victims involved in such fatalities. According to data provided by the Central Police Headquarters, the annual number of traffic accidents in Poland has been in excess of 50,000 in recent years; more than 10% of these incidents have resulted in fatalities. The number of traffic accidents in the Malopolska province has amounted to 5,000, and more than 7% of these accidents have been fatal. In the years 2000–2003, a total of 884 victims of fatal traffic accidents that occurred in the Cracow region were autopsied at the Department of Forensic Medicine, Collegium Medicum, Jagiellonian University. Drivers accounted for 26% and passengers for 16% of these cases, while the most numerous subgroup, represented by more than 57% of the victims, were pedestrians hit by moving vehicles. Among drivers autopsied in 2000–2002, 41–42% had alcohol in their system or had been intoxicated at the time of their death; in 2003, this percentage decreased to 31%. Among the passengers, the mean percentage of those being under the influence of alcohol and intoxicated ranged from 27% to 58%. However, the majority of victims were alcohol-intoxicated pedestrians hit by moving vehicles; they accounted for over 50% of the autopsied individuals.

KEYWORDS: Alcohol-impaired driving; Road safety; Mortality; Intoxication; BAC; Retrospective study; Poland.

Wypadki komunikacyjne ze skutkiem śmiertelnym a alkohol na obszarze Małopolski w latach 2000–2003 na podstawie materiału archiwalnego Zakładu Medycyny Sądowej CM UJ w Krakowie

M. Klys, S. Grzeszczuk, T. Majchrzak

Archiwum Medycyny Sądowej i Kryminologii, 2006, 56(2), 80–85.

SKRÓT: W pracy przedstawiono problem wypadkowości komunikacyjnej ze skutkiem śmiertelnym ze szczególnym uwzględnieniem obecności alkoholu we krwi ofiar—uczestników wypadków drogowych. Według danych Komendy Głównej Policji roczna liczba wypadków drogowych w Polsce w ostatnich latach przekraczała 50000, z czego ponad 10% stanowiły wypadki ze skutkiem śmiertelnym. Liczba wypadków w Małopolsce oscylowała wokół 5000, a ponad 7% były to wypadki ze skutkiem śmiertelnym. W latach 2000–2003 w Zakładzie Medycyny Sądowej CM UJ sekcjonowano 884 osoby zmarłe wskutek obrażeń odniesionych w wypadkach drogowych w rejonie Krakowa. Wśród zmarłych kierowcy stanowili 26%, pasażerowie 16%, zaś największą grupę, bo ponad 57% reprezentowali potrąceni piesi. Wśród sekcjonowanych zmarłych kierowców, będący pod wpływem alkoholu oraz nietrzeźwi stanowili 41–42% w latach 2000–2002 (w stosunku do wszystkich badanych), w roku 2003 odsetek ten zmniejszył się do 31%. Wśród pasażerów, będący pod wpływem alkoholu i nietrzeźwi stanowili w tym okresie średnio nieznacznie wyższy odsetek, mieszczący się w przedziale 27–58%. Największy jednakże odsetek stanowiły osoby będące pod wpływem alkoholu, a zwłaszcza nietrzeźwi potrąceni piesi, przewyższając znacząco 50% ogólnej liczby badanych sekcynie zmarłych.

Young People

Hungary

Changing trends, changing consumption habits: Alcohol and other drug use of secondary school population in Budapest, 1992–2007

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Addictologia Hungarica, 2007, 3, 189–213.

ABSTRACT: This paper presents the changes in alcohol and other drug use among secondary school students in Budapest, Hungary, during the period between 1992 and 2007. The results draw on the survey conducted in Budapest as part of the 2007 European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ESPAD). The 2007 data are based on a self-administered questionnaire, distributed to a representative sample of students in 8–10 grades in Budapest secondary schools. The paper also reviews comparable figures from previous surveys conducted in Budapest, using the same methodology as the ESPAD. It can be concluded that those substance use tendencies that were worsening in the late 1990s and early 2000s stabilized or improved in 2007: The main prevalence rates of smoking have decreased in the last 4 years, and several indicators of alcohol use have improved. After several years of growth, the prevalence of illicit drug use also diminished in 2007.

KEYWORDS: Young people; Prevalence; Trends; Alcohol; Smoking; Other drugs; ESPAD; Hungary.

Változó trendek, változó fogyasztási szokások: A budapesti középiskolások alkohol-és egyéb drogfogyasztási szokásai 1992–2007

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Addictologia Hungarica, 2007, 3, 189–213.

ÖSSZEFOGLALÁS: A tanulmány 2007. évi ESPAD (European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs) kutatás keretében, annak módszereivel Budapesten készített adatfelvétel eredményei alapján mutatja be azokat a változásokat, amelyek a fővárosban tanuló fiatalok alkohol és egyéb drogfogyasztási szokásaiban 1992 és 2007 között végbementek. A tanulmány alapját képező kutatás adatfelvétele 2007-ben készült önkitöltős kérdőívvel a Budapesten tanuló 8–10. évfolyamos diákok reprezentatív mintáján. A tanulmány felhasználja az 1992–2005 között azonos módszerrel végzett korábbi budapesti kutatások eredményeit is. Ezek alapján megállapítható, hogy a kilencvenes évek második felében és a kétezres évek elején tapasztalt romló tendenciák az elmúlt években több mutató alapján mérséklődnek, stabilizálódnak, illetve javulnak: a dohányzás főbb prevalencia értékei az elmúlt 4 évben csökkentek, az alkoholfogyasztás számos mutatója javult. A tiltott szerek fogyasztása a 2003-ig tartó növekedés után 2007-ben csökkenést mutat.

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Italy

Association between drug, alcohol, and tobacco use in adolescents and socio-familial factors

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Annali di Igiene: Medicina Preventiva e di Comunità, 2005, 17(1), 57–65.

ABSTRACT: Substance abuse is the result of interaction among legal, environmental, and socio-demographic factors. Several studies have demonstrated that the adolescent substance abuse is a serious and growing problem. The aim of our study was to investigate the association between drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse and socio-familial factors to help evaluate a prevention program for adolescents. A cross-sectional survey was developed and administered to randomly selected secondary school students in the Teramo province. Data were collected by a self-administered questionnaire. The association between substance use and sociofamilial factors was evaluated by the chi-square test of Fisher exact test or trend test when appropriated. According to our data, alcohol abuse was more frequent in males (41.1%, $p = 0.000$), while smoking was more frequent in females (46.1%, $p = 0.005$). The abuse of alcohol, nicotine, heroine, cocaine, and ecstasy was associated with family instability: 61.5% ($p = 0.001$); 61.5% ($p = 0.022$); 7.7% ($p = 0.018$); 7.7% ($p = 0.010$); 7.7% ($p = 0.004$) respectively. Smoking was higher in adolescents living with a smoker: 50.3% ($p = 0.000$). Finally, substance abuse was higher in adolescents whose friends were substance-abusers, in particular: alcohol 49.6% ($p = 0.000$), nicotine 43.0% ($p = 0.000$), and cannabis 27.9% ($p = 0.000$). This survey suggested that the knowledge of factors influencing the initiation, pattern, and cessation of substance use is crucial for prevention programs among adolescents.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Sociocultural factors; Prevention; Family; Alcohol misuse; Smoking; Drug use, Italy.

Associazione tra l'uso di sostanze stupefacenti, alcool e tabacco negli adolescenti e contesto socio-familiare

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Annali di Igiene: Medicina Preventiva e di Comunità, 2005, 17(1), 57–65.

RIASSUNTO: L'abuso di sostanze stupefacenti è il risultato dell'interazione di fattori costituzionali, ambientali e socio-demografici. Molti studi hanno dimostrato che l'abuso di sostanze stupefacenti tra gli adolescenti, è un problema serio e in aumento. Obiettivo del nostro studio è indagare l'associazione tra contesto socio-familiare e l'uso di sostanze stupefacenti, alcool e fumo, allo scopo di ipotizzare un programma di prevenzione atto a diminuire in futuro l'abuso di tali sostanze negli adolescenti. Abbiamo disegnato e condotto uno studio trasversale arruolando un gruppo di adolescenti, campionati casualmente dalle scuole secondarie della provincia di Teramo. I dati sono stati raccolti tramite un questionario autosomministrato. Le associazioni tra l'uso di sostanze stupefacenti e le variabili prese in considerazione sono state valutate tramite il test del χ^2 o l'esatto di Fisher o il χ^2 trend quando appropriato. I nostri dati mostrano che l'abuso di alcool è più frequente nei maschi (41,1%, $p=0,000$), mentre l'abuso di nicotina è più frequente nelle femmine (46,1%, $p=0,005$). Particolare rilevanza assume il contesto familiare dell'adolescente, infatti l'uso di alcool, nicotina, eroina, cocaina, ecstasy, è associato alla mancanza di stabilità familiare, rispettivamente, 61,5%, ($p=0,001$); 61,5%, ($p=0,022$); 7,7% ($p=0,018$), 7,7% ($p=0,010$), 7,7% ($p=0,004$); inoltre, l'abuso di nicotina è maggiore negli adolescenti nella cui famiglia è presente un fumatore: 50,3%: ($p=0,000$). Infine, l'abuso di sostanze stupefacenti è maggiore negli adolescenti che hanno amici che fanno uso di tali sostanze, in particolare: alcool 49,6% ($p=0,000$), nicotina 43,0% ($p=0,000$), cannabis 27,9% ($p=0,000$). Questo studio suggerisce che la conoscenza dei fattori che influenzano l'inizio dell'assunzione, la continuazione o la cessazione delle sostanze prese in considerazione, rappresenta un momento cruciale per le strategie di prevenzione tra gli adolescenti.

Italy

Tobacco- and alcohol-related behaviors among adolescents attending high schools in Lodi, Milano (city and province) in the period 2000–2003: Results from two multicenter studies

A. Pellai, M. Puricelli, M. Saronio, L. Bassoli

Annali di Igiene: Medicina Preventiva e di Comunità, 2006, 18(3), 271–282.

ABSTRACT: Tobacco- and alcohol-related behaviors are important public health problems. Although the negative consequences of these substances' use and abuse are clear and well recognized, the prevalence of these behaviors among young people remains high. In order to implement effective preventive measures, it is useful to not only know causes and consequences of the behaviors, but also to quantify them and observe them over time. This study aimed to assess the spread of tobacco and alcohol use among students attending high schools in Lodi and Milano (city and province) during the 2002–2003 school year, comparing these data with those obtained through a similar study carried out during the 2000–2001 school year. Data were collected using a translated and adapted version of the YRBSS questionnaire, originally developed to monitor the prevalence of high-risk behaviors among U.S. teenagers. The study found that smoking remained high but had not increased in the considered period. Meanwhile, alcohol-related behaviors were growing in popularity, with a greater number of adolescents reporting alcohol consumption than before. This proved to be particularly true for girls. Implications for prevention are presented on the basis of these results.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Alcohol consumption; Smoking; Gender comparison; Survey; Italy.

Consumi di tabacco e alcol durante il triennio 2000–2003 tra gli adolescenti delle scuole superiori di Lodi e di Milano (Città Provincia): Risultati di due rilevazioni multicentriche

A. Pellai, M. Puricelli, M. Saronio, L. Bassoli

Annali di Igiene: Medicina Preventiva e di Comunità, 2006, 18(3), 271–282.

RIASSUNTO: I consumi di alcool e tabacco sono ancora problemi rilevanti dal punto di vista sanitario, economico e socio-politico; anche se le conseguenze negative dell'uso e abuso di queste sostanze sono già note, la prevalenza del fenomeno rimane comunque elevata. Pertanto per realizzare interventi di prevenzione efficaci, è necessario conoscere le cause e le conseguenze di un comportamento, ma anche essere in grado di quantificarlo e monitorarlo nel tempo. Lo studio valuta la diffusione del consumo di tabacco e alcool tra studenti delle scuole superiori di Lodi, Milano e provincia, durante l'anno scolastico 2002–2003 e permette di confrontare i dati con lo stesso tipo di ricerca effettuata nell'anno 2000–2001. Lo studio si basa sull'analisi dei dati raccolti mediante un questionario anonimo. Il consumo di tabacco appare ancora elevato sebbene non ci siano state variazioni rilevanti rispetto al passato, mentre il consumo di alcool tende ad interessare un numero sempre maggiore di adolescenti, coinvolgendo anche il sesso femminile.

Poland

Alcohol consumption among rural junior secondary school students

J. Papież

Roczniki Państwowego Zakładu Higieny, 2006, 57(Suppl.), 121–124.

ABSTRACT: This article analyzed the problem of alcohol consumption among junior secondary school (Polish: “gymnasium”) students living in rural areas. The author aimed to assess the scope of adolescent drinking, the reasons for drinking, and young people’s and their parents’ opinions on the issue. The research was presented within a vast context of knowledge about how young people function in their families (i.e., their relationship with family members). Students’ drinking was assessed through a questionnaire survey. The respondents were selected according to specified criteria; the essential criterion was a place of residence, i.e. a rural area. The sample consisted of 285 students, mainly from large or medium-sized families with primary or secondary vocational education. The analysis of the collected empirical material showed that more than 80% of respondents have already had their alcohol initiation. The most frequently consumed beverage was beer, followed by vodka and wine; wine was the least popular beverage among the students. Girls usually drank beer and wine. Disturbingly, only 10% of the parents objected to their children’s drinking or getting drunk. The adolescents consumed alcohol to relax, feel adult, and be accepted by their peers. Senior students drank more than their younger counterparts. This study demonstrates an urgent need for primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention at the junior secondary school level.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Underage drinking; Drinking patterns; Parenting; Attitudes; Peer pressure; Geographic factors; Beverage preference; Gender comparison; Poland.

Spożywanie alkoholu przez wiejskich gimnazjalistów

J. Papież

Roczniki Państwowego Zakładu Higieny, 2006, 57(Suppl.), 121–124.

SKRÓT: Artykuł przedstawia problematykę spożywania alkoholu przez wiejskich gimnazjalistów. Badania pokazują, że to właśnie w domu młodzież najczęściej przechodzi inicjację alkoholową. To rodzina poprzez swoje kontakty z alkoholem kształtuje postawy młodych ludzi. Badana młodzież pochodziła głównie z rodzin średniodzietnych z wykształceniem podstawowym i zawodowym. Z ogólnej liczby badanych aż 64 proc. to bezrobotni ojcowie i prawie 86 proc. bezrobotne matki. Wprawdzie z badań wynika, że często i bardzo często w domu pojawia się alkohol—około 7 proc., to o problemie nadużywania alkoholu w rodzinie pisało już około 23 proc.

Poland and Lithuania

Changes in adolescents' alcohol drinking in the time of accession to the European Union: Polish and Lithuanian experiences

P. Supranowicz, M. J. Wysocki, A. Berzanskyte, R. Valinteliene

Roczniki Państwowego Zakładu Higieny, 2006, 57(Suppl.), 113–120.

ABSTRACT: The greatest increase in adolescent alcohol consumption in the late 1990s Europe was in the candidate countries for the European Union. This paper aimed: (1) to examine the changes of adolescent alcohol consumption in the five-year period preceding the accession of Poland to the European Union; and (2) to compare regular alcohol consumption and attitudes toward drinking among Polish and Lithuanian adolescents. The study relied on findings of the 1999 and 2004 surveys in Warsaw junior secondary schools and the 2004 survey of Vilnius junior secondary schools, focusing on data from 14- to 15-year-old adolescents. The analysis of Polish results confirmed significant increase in frequency of alcohol consumption and a more positive attitude toward usefulness of drinking from 1999 and 2004. This process took place more dynamically among girls. The comparison of Warsaw and Vilnius samples showed that Lithuanian girls were more likely to drink alcohol regularly, and Lithuanian adolescents were more likely to ascribe higher usefulness to alcohol consumption as a way to cope with everyday troubles than their Polish counterparts. The study discussed these findings in respect to other studies and changes in alcohol control policy.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Drinking patterns; Gender comparison; Gender convergence; Attitudes; National policies; European Union; Poland; Lithuania.

Zmiany w zakresie picia alkoholu przez młodzież towarzyszącą przystąpieniu do Unii Europejskiej: Doświadczenia Polski i Litwy

P. Supranowicz, M. J. Wysocki, A. Berzanskyte, R. Valinteliene

Roczniki Państwowego Zakładu Higieny, 2006, 57(Suppl.), 113–120.

SKRÓT: W artykule przedstawiono zmiany, jakie nastąpiły między rokiem 1999 i 2004, w zakresie częstości picia alkoholu przez młodzież warszawską i postawy wobec picia alkoholu. Ponadto wyniki badań przeprowadzonych w 2004 roku wśród młodzieży warszawskiej porównano z podobnymi badaniami przeprowadzonymi równoległe wśród młodzieży wileńskiej.

Portugal

Social representations of alcohol use among university students

L. do Rosário Cabral,¹⁵ C. M. da Cruz Farate, J. C. Duarte

Revista Referência, 2007, IIª Série(4), 69–78. Full text is available (in Portuguese): http://www.esenfc.pt/esenfc/rr/index.php?id_wbsite=3&d=1&target=DetalhesArtigo&id_artigo=17&id_rev=4&id_edicao=4.

ABSTRACT: In the process of socialization, young people learn that alcohol, through the symbolism that represents it, helps to reduce tension and anxiety, is a source of pleasure, quenches thirst, gives energy, facilitates digestion, is a medicine, is food, and is a stimulant. These often false concepts are transmitted across generations and can justify future behavior in the consumption of alcohol among adolescents and young adults. This study aimed to analyze social representations concerning alcohol (false concepts and level of knowledge) among university day students in Viseu, Portugal. A quantitative longitudinal study was conducted through a self-administered psycho-social questionnaire. The sample was made up of 2,056 students in the initial university class who in 2004 were in the 1st and 2nd years, and in 2005 were in the 2nd and 3rd years of the various programs of study at the Escola Superior Politécnica of Viseu. The results revealed the following: the average age of the students in the sample was 20.9 years; more than half (50%) of the young people chose to live with classmates; the primary sources of information about alcoholic beverages were friends and parents. With regard to social representation of the use of alcoholic beverages in the sample under study, it was possible to conclude that more than 80% of the students exhibited several false concepts, showing a higher average incidence for some of the indicators analyzed in the second phase of the study (i.e., as they proceed with their studies), with the boys always exhibiting a more favorable representation of alcohol consumption.

KEYWORDS: Young adults; University students; Alcohol; Misconceptions; Social representations; Portugal.

Representações sociais sobre o álcool em estudantes do ensino superior

L. do Rosário Cabral, C. M. da Cruz Farate, J. Carvalho Duarte

Revista Referência, 2007, IIª Série(4), 69–78.

RESUMO: No processo de socialização, os jovens, aprendem que o álcool, pela simbologia que representa, ajuda a reduzir a tensão, a ansiedade, é fonte de prazer, mata a sede, dá força, facilita a digestão, é um medicamento, é alimento, aquece e estimula. Estes falsos conceitos são herdados de um modo intergeracional e podem justificar a prática futura de comportamentos de consumo de álcool entre os adolescentes e jovens adultos. Este estudo destina-se a analisar as representações sociais acerca do álcool (falsos conceitos e nível de conhecimento) entre os estudantes do ensino superior público diurno de Viseu. Foi efectuada uma pesquisa quantitativa longitudinal através de auto-questionário psicossocial. A amostra é constituída por 2056 estudantes da formação inicial de ensino superior que no ano de 2004 frequentavam o 1º e 2º anos e no ano de 2005, o 2º e 3º anos dos diferentes cursos da Escola Superior Politécnica de Viseu. Os resultados obtidos revelam que: a média de idades dos estudantes da amostra se situa nos 20,9 anos; mais de metade (50 %) dos jovens optam por viver com colegas; as fontes de informação privilegiadas sobre bebidas alcoólicas são os amigos, e os pais. No que diz respeito à representação social da utilização de bebidas alcoólicas na amostra em estudo, é possível concluir que mais de 80 % os estudantes revelam possuir vários falsos conceitos, apresentando ordenações médias mais elevadas em alguns dos indicadores analisados na segunda fase do inquérito (i.e., à medida que vão prosseguindo os seus estudos), sendo que os rapazes revelam sempre uma representação social mais favorável à utilização de bebidas alcoólicas.

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Portugal

Characteristics of the consumption of psychoactive substances in a school population

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Revista Toxicodependências, 2007, 13(3), 31–36. Full text is available (in Portuguese): http://www.toxicodependencias.pt/media/artigos/2007_03_TXT4.pdf.

ABSTRACT: This exploratory and cross-sectional study focused on the phenomenon of the consumption of psychoactive substances among 678 secondary school students, aged 12 to 15 years. The study's objectives were: to describe the target population; to assess the prevalence of the consumption of alcohol beverages, tobacco, and illegal drugs; and to identify factors connected with this consumption. A specially-developed self-reported questionnaire was used for data collection. Some of key results were as follows. The prevalence of consuming alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs in the last 30 days was 49%, 16.5%, and 7.4% respectively. The respondents' gender and age group were important variables for understanding their behavior. The lower limit of the initiation age was low, increasing from the consumption of alcohol to the consumption of illegal drugs. The link between the prevalence of substance consumption and the initiation age suggests that preventive interventions should focus in particular on greater engagement of male students before they reach the ages of 12–13 years and continue until the end of secondary school.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Gender comparison; Health promotion; Alcohol; Smoking; Illegal drugs; Prevention; Portugal.

Caracterização do consumo de substâncias psicoativas numa população escolar

A. Carvalho, E. Lemos, F. Raimundo, M. Costa, F. Cardoso

Revista Toxicodependências, 2007, 13(3), 31–36.

RESUMO: Estudo exploratório e transversal que pretende caracterizar o fenómeno do consumo de substâncias psicoativas em 678 alunos, do 7º ao 10º ano, de uma escola secundária. Os objectivos do presente estudo são: caracterizar a população alvo; conhecer a prevalência do consumo de bebidas alcoólicas, tabaco e drogas ilícitas; identificar factores relacionados com os referidos consumos. Para a recolha de dados utilizámos um questionário de autopreenchimento, construído para o efeito. Nos últimos 30 dias a prevalência de consumo de bebidas alcoólicas, tabaco e drogas ilícitas foi de 49%, 16,5% e 7,4%, respectivamente. As variáveis sexo e classe etária assumiram-se como variáveis importantes na compreensão destes fenómenos. O limite inferior das idades de iniciação é baixo e aumenta do consumo de álcool para o consumo de drogas ilícitas. A prevalência dos consumos, associada às idades de iniciação, permite-nos sugerir, que as intervenções de prevenção privilegiem maior envolvimento do sexo masculino; aconteçam antes dos 12–13 anos e tenham continuidade no 3º ciclo e ensino secundário.

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Portugal

Knowledge, behavior, and attitudes toward alcohol beverages: Girls and boys—is there a difference?

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Boletim do Centro Regional de Alcoologia do Norte, 2005, 1, 30–40.

ABSTRACT: The aim of this work was as follows: to evaluate knowledge, behavior, and attitudes concerning alcoholic beverages among a population of secondary school students, so as to provide better knowledge and understanding of habits involving alcohol among adolescents and the contexts in which they operate. A questionnaire was developed with questions concerning knowledge, behavior, and attitudes with respect to alcoholic beverages. The adolescents surveyed were divided into two groups, based on gender. A descriptive analysis of the variables was performed, referring to statistical tests in cases where a comparison among the variables was undertaken. A lack of knowledge was found among those surveyed with regard to myths and false ideas associated with drinking and notions about the effects of consuming alcohol: 10% of the girls and 29% of the boys ($p < 0.001$) believed that alcoholic beverages help to forget about problems and misfortunes; 33% of the girls and 43% of the boys thought that it is impossible to have a party without alcohol ($p = 0.004$); 18% of the girls and 37% of the boys ($p < 0.001$) agreed that consuming alcohol is one of the most agreeable ways to have a party; and 40% of the girls and 51% of the boys surveyed ($p = 0.003$) found it easier to express their feelings after drinking alcoholic beverages. The first contact with alcohol was at a relatively early age (about 20% tried their first drink between the ages of 6 and 11 years); it happened at home and in the company of relatives. Most of those surveyed now consume alcohol in bars and in the company of friends, the most commonly mentioned drinks being: “shots,” “alcopops” and “tall drinks” as opposed to wine.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Gender comparison; Beverage preference; Expectancies; Misconceptions.

Conhecimentos, comportamentos e atitudes relativos às bebidas alcoólicas: Raparigas e rapazes—que diferença?

S. Cunha, A. Bento

Boletim do Centro Regional de Alcoologia do Norte, 2005, 1, 30–40.

RESUMO: Foi objectivo deste trabalho: avaliar conhecimentos, comportamentos e atitudes, face às bebidas alcoólicas, de uma população de alunos do ensino secundário, de modo a proporcionar um melhor conhecimento e compreensão dos hábitos relacionados com o álcool em adolescentes e dos contextos em que estes ocorrem. Construiu-se um questionário de auto-preenchimento com questões sobre conhecimentos, comportamentos e atitudes face às bebidas alcoólicas. Os adolescentes inquiridos foram divididos em dois grupos, consoante o género. Fez-se uma análise descritiva das variáveis, recorrendo-se a testes estatísticos nos casos em que se pretendeu uma comparação das mesmas. Verificou-se desconhecimento dos inquiridos, no que diz respeito a mitos e falsos conceitos associados às bebidas e nas noções sobre efeitos da ingestão de álcool: 10% das raparigas e 29% dos rapazes ($p < 0,001$) acham que as bebidas alcoólicas ajudam a esquecer os problemas e as tristezas; 33% das raparigas e 43% dos rapazes pensam ser impossível realizar uma festa sem álcool ($p = 0,004$); 18% das raparigas e 37% dos rapazes ($p < 0,001$) concordam que consumir estas bebidas é uma das formas mais agradáveis de festejar e 40% das inquiridas e 51% dos inquiridos ($p = 0,003$) consideram que os sentimentos são mais fáceis de expressar depois de ingerir bebidas alcoólicas. O primeiro contacto com o álcool foi precoce (cerca de 20% teve esse primeiro contacto entre os 6 e os 11 anos), ocorreu em casa e na companhia de familiares. A maioria dos inquiridos faz os seus consumos alcoólicos actuais em bares e na companhia dos amigos, sendo as bebidas mais referidas: “shots,” “alcopops” e “bebidas longas” em detrimento do vinho.

Portugal

Adolescents and the consumption of psychoactive substances: Time and territory as factors underlying the dynamics of consumption in Portugal and Europe

F. Feijão¹⁷

Revista Toxicodependências, 2007, 13(1), 59–80. Full text is available (in Portuguese): http://www.toxicodependencias.pt/media/artigos/2007_01_TXT7.pdf.

ABSTRACT: At a time when a new cycle of studies is underway to assess the evolution of the consumption of psychoactive substances in various populations, this article addresses the situation of Portuguese adolescents in school. The paper presents the changes in alcohol and drug use over a period of time (as far as data are available at the national level) and compares them with trends in other European countries, seeking to emphasize the influence that geographic location (territory) may or may not have on the definitions surrounding substance consumption at a given moment and over a period of time (1995 to 2003). With respect to Portugal, the evolution of the consumption of alcohol and drugs in 2003 is analyzed in terms of age (time of life); certain perceptions, expectations, and beliefs associated with such consumption are also presented.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Prevalence; Drinking patterns; Alcohol; Illegal drugs; Perceptions; Expectancies; Beliefs; Trends; Portugal.

Adolescentes e consumo de substâncias psicoativas: O tempo e o território enquanto factores subjacentes às dinâmicas de consumo em Portugal e na Europa

F. Feijão

Revista Toxicodependências, 2007, 13(1), 59–80.

RESUMO: No momento em que decorre um novo ciclo de estudos para avaliar a evolução dos consumos de substâncias psicoativas em diversas populações, este artigo faz o ponto da situação relativamente aos adolescentes escolarizados. Apresenta-se a evolução da dimensão dos consumos de álcool e drogas, ao longo do tempo (desde que há dados disponíveis a nível nacional) e compara-se essa evolução com a de outros países europeus procurando salientar a importância que a situação geográfica (território) pode, ou não, ter na definição da dimensão do consumo de uma substância, num determinado momento e ao longo do tempo (1995 a 2003). Por outro lado, relativamente a Portugal, analisa-se a evolução dos consumos de álcool e droga, em 2003, em função da idade (tempo de vida) e caracterizam-se ainda algumas percepções, expectativas e crenças associadas a esses consumos.

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Portugal

Alcohol consumption habits in adolescents

V. Mendes,¹⁸ P. Lopes¹⁹

Revista Toxicodependências, 2007, 13(2), 25–40. Full text is available (in Portuguese): http://www.toxicodependencias.pt/media/artigos/2007_02_TXT3.pdf.

ABSTRACT: This study compared the alcohol consumption habits in adolescents of both genders. This research was transversal, current, and retrospective and involved 272 adolescents, 139 males with average ages of 15.66 years (DP = 1.47) and 133 females with average ages of 15.64 years (DP = 1.37). The participants were aged between 12 and 19 years. The study used a questionnaire on sociodemographic data; the Alcohol Involvement Scale for Adolescents—AAIS (Mayer & Filstead, 1979), adapted for the Portuguese population by Barrias et al. (1984); the Harder Personal Feelings questionnaire—FPQ2 (Harder, 1990), translated for the Portuguese population by Carvalho and Rosa (2003); and the Shyness Scale—SS-R (Cheek & Buss, 1981), translated for the Portuguese population by Lory and Baptista (1999). The study found that 73.9% of the adolescents usually went out at night and 74.5% usually drank alcoholic beverages during such outings; 19.1% of respondents said they had tried illegal drugs at least once. This study found greater consumption rates of beer and spirits and greater rates of academic problems (failing classes) in male respondents than in their female counterparts. Female respondents demonstrated greater occasional spirits consumption and greater shame rates than male respondents. The students of the Beira Interior exhibited greater shyness rates and lower levels of guilt than students from the greater Lisbon area. A discussion of the results follows.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Alcohol; Illegal drugs; Drinking patterns; Gender comparison; Beverage preference; Portugal.

Hábitos de consumo de álcool em adolescentes

V. Mendes, P. Lopes

Revista Toxicodependências, 2007, 13(2), 25–40.

RESUMO: O objectivo deste estudo foi fazer uma comparação entre os hábitos de consumo de álcool em adolescentes de ambos os géneros. Esta investigação foi de natureza transversal, actual e retrospectiva, constituída por 272 adolescentes, 139 do género masculino com média de idades de 15.66 (DP=1.47), e 133 do género feminino, cuja média de idades foi de 15.64 (DP=1.37). Apresentaram idades entre os 12 e os 19 anos. Os instrumentos utilizados foram um Questionário de dados sociodemográficos, a Escala de Envolvimento com o Álcool para Adolescentes—AAIS (Mayer & Filstead, 1979) aferida para a população portuguesa por Barrias et al. (1984), a Harder Personal Feelings Questionnaire—FPQ2 (Harder, 1990) traduzido para a população portuguesa por Carvalho & Rosa, (2003) e Escala da Timidez—SS-R (Cheek, & Buss, 1981) traduzida para a população portuguesa por Lory & Baptista (1999). Através do nosso estudo verificámos que 73,9 % dos adolescentes costuma sair à noite, quando saem costumam beber bebidas alcoólicas (74,5%) e, 19,1 % já experimentou drogas pelo menos uma vez. Os resultados apontam para maiores índices de consumo de cerveja em conjunto com bebidas brancas e maior insucesso escolar (reprovações) no género masculino, comparativamente ao género feminino, que apresenta um maior consumo de bebidas brancas isoladamente e maiores índices de vergonha. Os alunos da Beira Interior apresentam maiores índices de timidez e menores de culpa, comparativamente aos alunos da zona da grande Lisboa. Segue-se a discussão dos resultados.

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Spain

Psychosocial factors and health behaviors related to alcohol consumption among adolescents: A multivariate analysis

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Revista Latinoamericana de Psicología, 2004, 36(1), 125–144.

ABSTRACT: This study aimed to determine the interrelationship between alcohol consumption/other health behaviors and different psychosocial factors related to family, school, and peers among Spanish adolescents. The population of Spanish students was represented by a sample of 17-year-olds ($n = 1.405$; male: 40.9%; female: 59.1%). A proportional stratification and multistage sampling system were used. An anonymous questionnaire was completed by the students in class. Data were analyzed by multiple correspondence analysis. The analysis revealed two main factors: (1) Alcohol consumption; and (2) Physical activity and self-appraisal. Specifically, the first factor showed the interrelationship between alcohol consumption behavior/other health-risk behaviors and different psychosocial variables. Results associated alcohol consumption by adolescents with tobacco and cannabis use, sexual risk behaviors, not using helmet while riding a motorcycle, not respecting traffic laws, low perceived risk from driving a motorcycle after drinking alcohol or riding with a driver who had been drinking alcohol, sensation seeking behaviors, perception of low support from parents, low integration in school, spending many evenings with friends, going to bed late, and frequently feeling tired on school mornings. These findings suggest that alcohol prevention programs for adolescents must take into consideration the interrelationship of adolescent drinking with other health-risk behaviors and the psychosocial context.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Alcohol-impaired driving; Parenting; Peer pressure; Road safety; Self-esteem; Sexual behavior; Sociocultural factors; Spain.

Factores psicosociales y comportamientos de salud relacionados con el consumo de alcohol en adolescentes: un análisis multivariable

A. M. Carrasco González

Revista Latinoamericana de Psicología, 2004, 36(1), 125–144.

RESUMEN: Este estudio buscó analizar la interrelación entre el consumo de alcohol y otros comportamientos relacionados con la salud y diversos factores psicosociales vinculados al contexto familiar, escolar y grupo de iguales en adolescentes españoles. La muestra utilizada es representativa de los adolescentes escolarizados españoles de diecisiete años ($n = 1405$). El 40.9% son chicos y el 59.1% chicas. El sistema de muestreo ha sido aleatorio, estratificado, proporcional, polietápico y por conglomerados. Se utilizó un cuestionario anónimo que los propios escolares cumplimentaron en sus aulas. Los datos fueron analizados a través de la técnica de análisis de correspondencias múltiples. Los resultados obtenidos revelan dos factores principales: (1) Consumo de alcohol; (2) Actividad deportiva y autopercepción. En concreto, el primer factor muestra la covariación del consumo de alcohol con otros comportamientos de riesgo para la salud y diversos factores psicosociales. El consumo de alcohol aparece asociado al consumo de tabaco y cannabis, relaciones sexuales sin protección, no utilización del casco al circular en moto, no respeto a las señales de tráfico, búsqueda de sensaciones de riesgo, percepción de bajo apoyo parental, escasa integración escolar, salidas frecuentes con los amigos por las tardes, acostarse tarde y sensación de cansancio matinal en días lectivos. Los resultados obtenidos sugieren que los programas dirigidos a la prevención del consumo de alcohol en adolescentes deben tener presente su interrelación con otros comportamientos de riesgo para la salud y el contexto psicosocial.

Spain

Evolution of the consumption of toxic substances among the adolescents in an urban area (1997–2004)

A. Perez Milena, F. J. Leal Helmling, I. Jimenez Pulido, I. Mesa Gallardo, M. L. Martinez Fernandez, R. Perez Milena
Atencion Primaria, 2007, 39(6), 299–304.

ABSTRACT: Objectives: To find the evolution of the consumption of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs among adolescents in an urban area. **Design:** Descriptive, cross-sectional study using a self-administered questionnaire. **Setting:** Secondary school in a middle-class urban area. **Participants:** Six hundred seventy-eight students took part in the study in 1997, 2001, and 2004. **Measurements and Main Results:** The questionnaire included queries on age, sex, and consumption of toxic substances. The following figures are given in order of the year of study—1997, 2001, and 2004 respectively. We studied 172, 249, and 257 adolescents, with a mean age of 14 years (age interval: from 12 to 17 years) and an equal number of male and female participants. The proportion of adolescents with no consumption of toxic substances increased in the period between 1997 and 2004 (21%+/-3.1%; 34%+/-3.0% 56%+/-3.1%; $P < .001$, χ^2), mainly because overall alcohol consumption dropped (58%+/-3.6%; 61%+/-3.2%; 41%+/-3.1%; $P < .001$, χ^2), although its weekend consumption increased (84%+/-2.6%; 85%+/-2.2%; 96%+/-1.2%; $P < .05$, χ^2), especially of spirits. Tobacco consumption increased in the period between 1997 and 2004 (12%+/-2.4%; 21%+/-2.3%; 29%+/-2.4%; $P < .001$, χ^2), with a pattern of daily smoking (9%+/-0.6%; 34%+/-3.2%; 47%+/-3.1%; $P < .01$, χ^2). The consumption of illegal drugs also increased in the period between 1997 and 2004 (9%+/-0.6%; 24%+/-2.8%; 16%+/-2.4%; $P < .001$, χ^2), with an intermittent pattern of use (87%+/-1.6%; 71%+/-2.3%; 85%+/-1.8). Cannabis was the most used illegal drug (> 90%); the prevalence of cocaine use fell; and designer drug use increased. The respondents' age affected consumption, but gender did not. **Conclusions:** In the last 8 years, the consumption of toxic substances among adolescents has dropped, mainly because of decreases in alcohol consumption. However, new forms of alcohol and illegal drug use have emerged, especially during weekends, and daily consumption of tobacco increased.

KEYWORDS: Adolescents; Geographic factors; Drinking patterns; Beverage preference; Smoking; Illegal drugs; Cross-sectional study; Spain.

Evolucion del consumo de sustancias toxicas en los adolescentes de una zona urbana (1997–2004)

A. Perez Milena, F. J. Leal Helmling, I. Jimenez Pulido, I. Mesa Gallardo, M. L. Martinez Fernandez, R. Perez Milena
Atencion Primaria, 2007, 39(6), 299–304.

RESUMEN: Objetivos. Conocer la evolución del consumo de alcohol, tabaco y otras drogas entre adolescentes de una zona urbana. **Diseño.** Descriptivo, transversal, mediante encuesta autoadministrada. **Emplazamiento.** Instituto de enseñanza secundaria (zona urbana de clase media). **Participantes.** Un total de 678 alumnos durante los años 1997, 2001 y 2004. **Mediciones y resultados principales.** Se recogieron datos de la edad, el sexo y el consumo de sustancias tóxicas. Los resultados se exponen según el año de estudio. Se estudian 172, 249 y 257 adolescentes, respectivamente, con mediana de 14 años (intervalo, 12–17 años) e igualdad de sexos. Se incrementa el número de adolescentes que no han consumido ningún tóxico (21%+/-3.1%; 34%+/-3.0% 56%+/-3.1%; $P < .001$, χ^2), fundamentalmente porque disminuye el consumo de alcohol (58%+/-3.6%; 61%+/-3.2%; 41%+/-3.1%; $P < .001$, χ^2), aunque aumenta su consumo durante el fin de semana (84%+/-2.6%; 85%+/-2.2%; 96%+/-1.2%; $P < .05$, χ^2), sobre todo de alta graduación. El consumo de tabaco se incrementa (12%+/-2.4%; 21%+/-2.3%; 29%+/-2.4%; $P < .001$, χ^2) con un patrón diario (9%+/-0.6%; 34%+/-3.2%; 47%+/-3.1%; $P < .01$, χ^2). El consumo de drogas también se eleva (9%+/-0.6%; 24%+/-2.8%; 16%+/-2.4%; $P < .001$, χ^2), con un patrón de consumo intermitente (87%+/-1.6%; 71%+/-2.3%; 85%+/-1.8); la más consumida es el cannabis (> 90%), disminuye el uso de cocaína y aumentan las drogas de diseño. La edad influye en el consumo, pero no el sexo. **Conclusiones.** En los últimos 8 años ha disminuido el consumo de tóxicos entre los adolescentes, sobre todo por una menor ingesta de alcohol. Sin embargo, aparecen nuevas formas de consumo de alcohol y otras drogas, sobre todo durante el fin de semana, y se incrementa el consumo diario de tabaco.

Annex 1: Members of the Editorial Group

Simona Anav, Osservatorio Permanente sui Giovani e l'Alcool, Italy

João Breda, Direcção-Geral da Saúde, Ministério da Saúde, Portugal

Marie Choquet, Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale (INSERM), France

Philippe de Witte, Université de Louvain, Belgium

Zsuzsanna Elekes, Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary

Carlos Farate, Instituto Superior Miguel Torga, Coimbra and Instituto de Ciências Biomédicas de Abel Salazar, Porto University (ICBAS-UP), Portugal

Pavel Kubu, Institute of Medical Informatics, Charles University, Czech Republic

Philip Lazarov, Euro Mediterranean Partnership against Substance Abuse (EMPASA), Cyprus

Fiona Measham, Lancaster University, UK

Rui Augusto Moreira, Liga Portuguesa de Alcoologia, Portugal

Gonzalo Musitu Ochoa, Universitat de València, Spain

Véronique Nahoum-Grappe, L'École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France

Dusan Nolimal, Institute of Public Health, Slovenia

Yury Razvodovsky, Grodno State Medical University, Belarus

Enrico Tempesta, Osservatorio Permanente sui Giovani e l'Alcool, Italy

Betsy Thom, Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University, UK

Annex 2: Guidelines for Editorial Group of *ICAP Periodic Review on Drinking and Culture*

(Last Updated 30 June 2008)

1. Editorial Tasks and Administrative Support

1.1 Editorial Tasks

Identification and selection of key research to be featured in the *Periodic Review* and all editorial decisions will be carried out by the members of the Editorial Group, consisting of experts from diverse geographic, linguistic, and discipline areas.

Individual Editorial Group members will select suitable articles following the criteria outlined below. With the expansion of the *Periodic Review*, an Editor-in-Chief (or Editors-in-Chief, as appropriate) may be appointed.

All communication for this project is to take place electronically; no regular meetings among the Editorial Group members are planned.

1.2 Administrative Support

Logistical and administrative support for the *Periodic Review* is provided by the International Center for Alcohol Policies (ICAP). ICAP has no part in the editorial decisions, but acts as a coordinating center for receiving the nominations, arranging translations, preparing the *Periodic Review* for publication, and maintaining the web page devoted to the publication.

2. Process

What follows is the basic clarification of the *Periodic Review's* scope, criteria for identification and selection of articles, communication procedures, format, and distribution. As the *Periodic Review* establishes itself and expands, it is expected that the sections below will be updated and streamlined.

2.1 Scope

The *Periodic Review* will focus on non-Anglophone European publications. Its scope may be expanded later to cover other geographic regions.

Coverage of the *Periodic Review* is limited to psychosocial and socio-cultural research, to focus on drinking culture, behavior, patterns, and psychosocial outcomes.

The inaugural issue of the *Periodic Review* will cover a retrospective of research (published within the past five years). Going forward, new research will be highlighted.

2.2 Identification and Selection Criteria

Members of the Editorial Group will nominate papers appearing in non-English-language journals they deem interesting and relevant.

Articles considered for the *Periodic Review* must come from academic journals that are peer reviewed, have a known editorial board, and provide clear criteria for authors.

Members of the Editorial Group may also nominate so-called grey literature.¹ The suitability of such literature for inclusion will be determined by the entire Editorial Group. Items defined as grey literature will be listed separately from the main research summaries.

The *Periodic Review* will not comment on or analyze the selected publications. Reviews and commentaries already published elsewhere, however, may be included, if selected by the Editorial Group.

2.3 Communication Procedures and Format

Individual members of the Editorial Group will send selected material on an *ad hoc* basis to ICAP (Daniya Tamendarova, ICAP Head of Publications).

If the original article or grey literature publication does not have an abstract, a summary (*up to 400 words*) should be provided in the original language by the nominating member of the Editorial Group. Abstracts are required in electronic format for compilation.

Where needed, ICAP will arrange for translations of abstracts into English.

¹ The term *grey literature* is attributed to a wide range of documents, but generally excludes books and journal-based research papers. The following definition is held to here: "That which is produced on all levels of government, academia, business, and industry in print and electronic formats, but which is not controlled by commercial publishers" (Fourth International Conference on Grey Literature, Washington, DC, October 1999). In general, grey literature includes, but is not limited to the following: reports (pre-prints, web publications, technical reports, statistical reports, memoranda, market research reports, etc.); theses; conference proceedings; official documents not published commercially (e.g., including government reports); policy and other documents produced by private organizations.

Only abstracts of selected articles will be included in the *Periodic Review*, both in original language and translated into English.

It is projected that each issue of the *Periodic Review* will include a maximum of around 25 abstracts. Abstracts will be arranged by language and topic.

Contact information of corresponding author(s) will be presented with each featured abstract.

2.4 Distribution

All issues of the *Periodic Review* will be distributed electronically by ICAP, starting in October 2008.

They will appear on an area on the ICAP website devoted solely to the project, which will also serve as a public repository of past *Periodic Review* issues and any related materials.

ICAP will send electronic alerts to announce new *Periodic Review* issues or updates to the *Review* site.

3. Updates of Guidelines

Members of the Editorial Group are encouraged to contact ICAP with any suggestions on improving the process above.



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