

Alcohol Research Digest – July / August 2008

Dear Colleagues,

Here is the latest issue of Alcohol Research Digest, a resource featuring alcohol-related articles from peer reviewed academic journals and research-oriented reports, newsletters, and resources from a variety of Canadian and international sources. All sources were published within the months of July and August 2008 and include at minimum, a link to an online abstract. If a link becomes broken, please copy and paste it directly into your web browser.

PLEASE NOTE: Some websites require a free or paid subscription to view resources. Some articles are available on-line for a limited time only.

We hope you will use Alcohol Research Digest to inform your work. Please take a few moments to browse through the titles and read/print those most relevant to you.

Material was selected based on potential relevance and usefulness to program m planners, health promoters, policy-makers, researchers and other active in the substance abuse prevention (specifically alcohol) across Ontario.

We encourage you to download any articles you find interesting, in accordance with copyright rules posted on individual sites. If you wish to view a narticel but encounter an out-of-date link, please contact the source directly, or send a document request to the CAMH Library, <mailto:library@camh.net>, Fax: (416) 595-6601. Please include a full citation with your request. There may be a cost associated with this service.

To view past issues, please visit
www.apolnet.ca/resources/pubs/respapers/ResQtlyHome.html.

The Alcohol Policy Network (APN) is a program of the Ontario Public Health association, and is funded through the Ministry of Health Promotion. For more information about this Electronic mailing list, or us please visit
www.apolnet.ca/AboutUsHome.html.

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1. Alcohol Advertising

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO MARKETING: EVALUATING COMPLIANCE WITH OUTDOOR ADVERTISING GUIDELINES

Molly M. Scotta Deborah A. Cohen, Matthias Schonlau, Thomas A. Farley, Ricky N. Bluthenthal, American Journal of Preventative Medicine, September Edition 2008 (Released online in August 2008)

Historically, the alcohol and tobacco industries have been the biggest users of outdoor advertising. However, the 1999 Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) outlawed tobacco billboards and transit furniture (e.g., bus, bench) ads, and the Outdoor Advertising Association of America (OAAA) has pledged to voluntarily eliminate ads for alcohol and tobacco within 500 feet of schools, playgrounds, and churches.

[http://www.ajpm-online.net/article/S0749-3797\(08\)00505-9/abstract](http://www.ajpm-online.net/article/S0749-3797(08)00505-9/abstract)

2. Impaired Driving / Road Safety

ANALYST: NEW DRUGS AND DRIVING LAW A 'STRONG, POSITIVE STEP'

Doug Beirness of CCSA, CBC News, July 22, 2008

There are many contentious issues in drug policy.

<http://www.cbc.ca/canada/story/2008/07/21/f-beirness.html>

3. Demographic Groups

a. Youth and Young Adults

SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL SURVEY FINDS YOUTHS LIVING IN PERMISSIVE HOUSEHOLDS SIGNIFICANTLY MORE LIKELY TO DRINK HEAVILY

Research Summary, CEASAR Fax, August 14, 2008

Youths living in permissive households are more likely to drink heavily than those from nonpermissive households, according to a longitudinal survey of youth attending South Dakota schools.

<http://www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol17/17-31.pdf>

NEGATIVE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES COULD PRECIPITATE EARLIER DRINKING

Research Summary, Join Together, August 12, 2008

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A study has found that children who deal with hardships such as abuse, divorce or substance abuse in the home may be more likely to begin using alcohol at a young age.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/negative-childhood.html>

SUBSTANCE USE INITIATION BEFORE AGE 13

Research Summary, Join Together, July 28, 2008

The percentage of students who first tried alcohol or cigarettes before the age of 13 has declined considerably over the last decade, according to data from the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/substance-use-before-age-13.html>

STUDY SAYS BINGEING WORSE AT COLLEGES WITH BIG DRINKING CULTURE, LAX RULES

Research Summary, Join Together, July 14, 2008

The college environment plays a key role in student binge drinking, researchers say, with bingeing rates higher at schools that have a strong drinking culture, few alcohol-control policies, weak enforcement, and easy access to alcohol.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/study-says-bingeing-worse-at.html>

See also: **WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED FROM THE HARVARD SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH COLLEGE ALCOHOL STUDY: FOCUSING ATTENTION ON COLLEGE STUDENT ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS THAT PROMOTE IT**

http://www.jsad.com/jsad/article/What_We_Have_Learned_From_the_Harvard_School_of_Public_Health_College_Alcoh/2252.html

45% OF YOUNG DRINKERS AGES 12 TO 14 GET ALCOHOL FREE FROM ADULT FAMILY MEMBERS OR TAKE FROM HOME

Research Summary, CEASAR Fax, University of Maryland, July 14, 2008

Young drinkers ages 12 to 14 are more likely to get alcohol in their own home than other underage drinkers, according to a recent analysis of data from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

<http://www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol17/17-28.pdf>

YOUTHS LESS LIKELY TO TRY ALCOHOL AND CIGARETTES BEFORE AGE 13 NOW THAN 10 YEARS AGO; PREVALENCE OF EARLY MARIJUANA INITIATION HAS NOT CHANGED

Research Summary, CEASAR Fax, University of Maryland, July 7, 2008

The percentage of high school students who first tried alcohol or cigarettes before the age of 13 has declined considerably over the last decade, according to recently released data from the national Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).

<http://www.cesar.umd.edu/cesar/cesarfax/vol17/17-27.pdf>

b. Older Adults

GETTING OLDER, DRINKING LESS, STUDY FINDS

Research Summary, Join Together, August 9, 2008

Participants in this comprehensive, long-term health study generally drank less as they got older and later generations drank less than their predecessors.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/large-health-study-documents.html>

See also: **SECULAR TRENDS IN ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION OVER 50 YEARS: THE FRAMINGHAM STUDY**

[http://www.amjmed.com/article/S0002-9343\(08\)00263-5/abstract](http://www.amjmed.com/article/S0002-9343(08)00263-5/abstract)

RISKY DRINKING IN OVER 55S BECOMES THE FOCUS OF NEW RESEARCH

Research Summary, Medical News Daily, July 17, 2008

A new study led by Simon Coulton, Professor of Health Services Research at the Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent, aims to improve services for over 55s caught up in 'risky drinking'.

<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/115313.php>

4. Alcohol Controls / Liability

STUDY FINDS SPORTS STADIUMS SERVE ALCOHOL TO INTOXICATED, UNDERAGE FANS

Research Summary, Join Together, August 21, 2008

An undercover operation conducted as part of research sponsored by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Substance Abuse Prevention and Research Program (SAPRP) found that apparently underage and intoxicated fans have a relatively easy time purchasing alcohol at professional sports events.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/underage-impaired-fans-able.html>

5. Health and Safety

a. Pregnancy / Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FAS/FASD)

STUDY FINDS ALCOHOL MAY COMPROMISE FERTILITY IN YOUNG WOMEN

Research News, Join Together, August 22, 2008

A study of Australian twins has found that women with alcohol dependence tended to have children later in life than other women, suggesting possibly damaging effects of alcohol on fertility.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/study-finds-alcohol-may.html>

BINGE DRINKING IN EARLY PREGNANCY ASSOCIATED WITH ORAL CLEFTS

Research Summary, Join Together, August 5, 2008

Women who engage in a binge drinking episode early in pregnancy are more than twice as likely as non-drinkers to give birth to a child with cleft lip or cleft palate.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/binge-drinking-in-early.html>

b. Low / High Risk Drinking / Harm Reduction

AUSTIN GETS TOP SPOT ON LIST OF HARD-DRINKING CITIES

Research Summary, Join Together, August 11, 2008

Federal behavioral risk factor data places Austin, Texas at the top of its list of major cities with the highest alcohol consumption.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/austin-gets-top-spot-on.html>

EXCESSIVE DRINKING MAY EXACERBATE METABOLIC SYNDROME RISK

Research News, Join Together, August 1, 2008

A new study has found that individuals who drink in amounts exceeding federal dietary guidelines have an increased risk of the metabolic syndrome associated with cardiovascular disease.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/excessive-drinking-linked.html>

FAMILY MEALS HAVE GREATER PROTECTIVE EFFECT ON GIRLS

Research Summary, Join Together, July 23, 2008

University of Minnesota researchers have found that while middle-school girls who share regular family meals see beneficial effects throughout their teenage years on substance-using behaviors, boys do not experience the same effects from a regular family presence at the dinner table

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/family-meals-have-greater.html>

LOUD MUSIC IN BARS ENCOURAGES HEAVIER, FASTER DRINKING

Research Summary, Join Together, July 22, 2008

Shedding further light on the relationship between music and drinking behavior, a study from French researchers has found that loud music played in bars appears to encourage patrons to drink more and faster.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/loud-music-in-bars-encourages.html>

EARLY DRINKING INITIATION AND ILLICIT DRUG USE

Research Summary, July 11, 2008

Alcohol Research Digest – July / August 2008

The earlier a person begins drinking alcohol, the more likely they are to have ever used other drugs illicitly.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/early-drinking-illicit-drug.html>

MEN, WOMEN GET DIFFERENT BENEFITS, RISKS FROM DRINKING

Research Summary, Join Together, July 11, 2008

A large study of alcohol use by Japanese men and women shows that gender plays a large role in the health benefits and risks associated with drinking.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/men-women-get-different.html>

See also: **ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND MORTALITY FROM STROKE AND CORONARY HEART DISEASE AMONG JAPANESE MEN AND WOMEN. THE JAPAN COLLABORATIVE COHORT STUDY**

<http://stroke.ahajournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/STROKEAHA.108.520288v1?mxtoshow=&HITS=10&hits=10&RESULTFORMAT=&fulltext=Hiroyasu+Iso&searchid=1&FIRSTINDEX=0&resourcetype=HWCIT>

c. Crime / Violence / Injury Prevention

REPORT UNDERSCORES FATAL RISK OF COMBINING PRESCRIPTIONS, OTHER SUBSTANCES AT HOME

Research Summary, Join Together, July 30, 2008

While medication-related fatalities in clinical settings have long captured the attention of researchers and health authorities, skyrocketing rates of deaths at home from combining medications and other substances have gone largely unnoticed.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/report-undercores-fatal-risk.html>

BULLIES MAY SUFFER MORE HARMS THAN THEIR VICTIMS

Research Summary, Join Together, July 28, 2008

While both bullies and their victims are at risk for harms such as physical injury, over-the-counter medication abuse, school absence and weapon use, new research is showing that the bullies may be at greater risk than their victims.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/bullies-may-suffer-more-harms.html>

ENERGY DRINKS LINKED TO RISK-TAKING BEHAVIORS AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

Research Summary, Join Together, July 24, 2008

Over the last decade, energy drinks - such as Red Bull, Monster, and Rockstar - have become nearly ubiquitous on college campuses. The global market for these types of drinks currently exceeds three billion dollars a year and new products are introduced annually.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/pressreleases/2008/energy-drinks-linked-to.html>

d. Addictions Treatment

RETURNING COMBAT VETERANS AT INCREASED RISK FOR ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

Research Summary, Join Together, August 15, 2008

A survey of active-duty veterans and National Guard and Reserve personnel has found that those who were exposed to combat in Iraq or Afghanistan are significantly more likely to engage in heavy drinking and report negative outcomes from drinking.

See also: Alcohol Use and Alcohol-Related Problems Before and After Military Combat Deployment

<http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/300/6/663>

AA MEMBERS REMAIN HIGHLY RELIANT ON COFFEE, CIGARETTES

Research Summary, Join Together, July 21, 2008

The coffee pot and the cigarette remain prevalent symbols in the 12-Step recovery moment, although some theorize that use of cigarettes may pose a risk to recovery outcomes for members of Alcoholics Anonymous.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/aa-members-remain-highly.html>

6. Workplace

Nothing to report

7. Influencing Policy

ALBERTA SETS NEW RULES TO IMPROVE BAR SAFETY

Press Release, Government of Alberta, August 1, 2008

Minimum drink prices, restricted happy hours among new policies to curb binge drinking

<http://alberta.ca/home/NewsFrame.cfm?ReleaseID=/acn/200807/23937E9A79871-CE68-4EA3-E801D73FA0D74574.html>

8. Practitioner Resources

SKILLS FOR HEALTH PROMOTION--INTRODUCTORY-LEVEL WORKSHOPS FROM THE HEALTH COMMUNICATION UNIT,

The Health Communication Unit (THCU), Jul 21, 2008

<http://www.thcu.ca/workshops/registration.cfm>

9. Other

HOUSEHOLD PERMISSIVENESS AND DRINKING

Research Summary, Join Together, August 13, 2008

Youths living in permissive households are more likely to drink heavily than those from nonpermissive households, according to a longitudinal survey of youth attending South Dakota schools.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/household-permissiveness.html>

STUDY FINDS PRE-OP PATIENTS' ALCOHOL USE DISORDERS OVERLOOKED

Research News, Join Together, July 25, 2008

A study has found that patients undergoing surgery receive little preoperative assessment for alcohol use disorders, while preventive measures often are not implemented even for those whose problem is identified.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/german-study-finds-little.html>

See also: **NEW STRATEGIES TO DETECT ALCOHOL USE DISORDERS IN THE PREOPERATIVE ASSESSMENT CLINIC OF A GERMAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

<http://www.anesthesiology.org/pt/re/anes/fulltext.00000542-200808000-00005.htm;jsessionid=L2PLG9hswQD6JQBv1tMtYbdKTxq1BF8RCcw1jnPpD6W48rC1vQtB!353761397!181195628!8091!-1>

DEPRESSION TIED TO QUITTING DRINKING

Research Summary, Join Together, July 10, 2008

A new animal study concludes that ending even moderate alcohol consumption can raise the risk of depression and inhibit the brain's ability to produce new neurons by reducing the number of neural stem cells.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2008/depression-tied-to-quitting.html>

See also: **ABSTINENCE FOLLOWING ALCOHOL DRINKING PRODUCES DEPRESSION-LIKE BEHAVIOR AND REDUCED HIPPOCAMPAL NEUROGENESIS IN MICE**

<http://www.nature.com/npp/journal/vaop/ncurrent/abs/npp200890a.html>