

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

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 March and April 2009 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 If you wish to view a narticel but encounter an out-of-date link, please contact the source directly, or send a document request to the CAMH Library, 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 / Promotion / Sponsorship
 2. Impaired Driving / Road Safety
 3. Demographic Group
 - a) Youth and Young Adults
 - b) Older Adults
 4. Alcohol Controls / Liability / Licensing
 5. Health and Safety
 - a) Pregnancy / Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FAS/FASD)
 - b) Low / High Risk Drinking / Harm Reduction
 - c) Crime / Violence / Injury Prevention

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

- d) Addictions Treatment
 - 6. Workplace
 - 7. Influencing Policy
 - 8. Practitioner Resources
 - 9. Other
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1. Alcohol Advertising

IS IT TIME TO BAN ALCOHOL ADVERTISING?

Peter Anderson, Clinical Medicine, Journal of the Royal College of Physicians
Volume 9, Number 2, April 2009

Children and adolescents are particularly vulnerable to the harmful effects of alcohol, with heavy drinking risking impaired brain development and future alcohol dependence.

<http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/rcop/cm/2009/00000009/00000002/art00007>

MEDIA COVERAGE OF CELEBRITY DUIS: TEACHABLE MOMENTS OR PROBLEMATIC SOCIAL MODELING?

Smith KC, Twum D, Gielen AC. Alcohol and Alcoholism 2009, Safety Lit, April 20, 2009

Alcohol in the media influences norms around use, particularly for young people.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citations%5B%5D=citjournalarticle_94932_1

ALCOHOL PORTRAYAL ON TELEVISION AFFECTS ACTUAL DRINKING BEHAVIOUR

Engels RC, Hermans R, van Baaren RB, Hollenstein T, Bot SM. Alcohol and Alcoholism 2009, Safety Lit, April 20, 2009

Alcohol portrayal in movies and commercials is generally positive and might stimulate young people to drink.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citations%5B%5D=citjournalarticle_95104_1

EU BAN ON ALCOHOL ADVERTISING NEEDED TO PROTECT CHILDREN

Research Summary, European Centre for Monitoring Alcohol Marketing, April 1, 2009

A cross border initiative to ban alcohol advertising that appeals to children and adolescents is needed to protect young people from the harmful effects of alcohol, according to leading public health doctor, Peter Anderson, writing in this month's Clinical Medicine, the journal of the Royal College of Physicians.

<http://www.eucam.info/>

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

MOVIE EXPOSURE TO ALCOHOL CUES AND ADOLESCENT ALCOHOL PROBLEMS: A LONGITUDINAL ANALYSIS IN A NATIONAL SAMPLE

Wills TA, Sargent JD, Gibbons FX, Gerrard M, Stoolmiller M. Psychology of Addictive Behaviour 2009, Safety Lit, March 16, 2009

The authors tested a theoretical model of how exposure to alcohol cues in movies predicts level of alcohol use (ever use plus ever and recent binge drinking) and alcohol-related problems.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationsIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_96122_1

EUROPEAN SCIENCE GROUP CONCLUDES: EVIDENCE THAT ALCOHOL MARKETING EXPOSURE AFFECTS DRINKING BEHAVIOUR YOUTH

Research Summary, European Centre for Monitoring Alcohol Marketing, March 12, 2009

The European Alcohol and Health Forum, established in 2007 by the euro-commissioner for Health, requested scientific advice from the Science Group on the impact of alcohol marketing.

<http://www.eucam.info/>

See also: **DOES MARKETING COMMUNICATION IMPACT ON THE VOLUME AND PATTERNS OF CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ESPECIALLY BY YOUNG PEOPLE? – A REVIEW OF LONGITUDINAL STUDIES (PDF)**

http://www.stap.nl/content/bestanden/scientific-opinion-on-marketing-communication_1.pdf

ALCOHOL-BRANDED MERCHANDISE AND ITS ASSOCIATION WITH DRINKING ATTITUDES AND OUTCOMES IN US ADOLESCENTS

McClure AC, Stoolmiller M, Tanski SE, Worth KA, Sargent JD. Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine 2009, Safety Lit, March 9, 2009

To describe ownership of alcohol-branded merchandise (ABM) and its association with attitudinal susceptibility, initiation of alcohol use, and binge drinking.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationsIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_95498_1

See also: **ALCOHOL-BRANDED MERCHANDISE: THE NEED FOR ACTION**

David H. Jernigan, PhD

<http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/extract/163/3/278>

PARENTS: FACTOR SMOKING, DRINKING INTO MOVIE RATINGS

Research Summary, Join Together, March 4, 2009

Scenes of smoking and drinking should be considered when movies are being rated, but such scenes alone should not automatically earn movies an "R" rating, parents said in a new survey.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/parents-factor-smoking.html>

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

See also: **PARENTAL ATTITUDES ABOUT CIGARETTE SMOKING AND ALCOHOL USE IN THE MOTION PICTURE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA RATING SYSTEM**

<http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/163/3/218>

2. Impaired Driving / Road Safety

EFFECTS OF A COLLEGE COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN ON DRINKING AND DRIVING WITH A STRONG ENFORCEMENT COMPONENT

McCartt AT, Hellinga LA, Wells JK. Traffic Injury Prevention 2009, Safety Lit, April 13, 2009

A program of publicized intensive enforcement of minimum drinking age law and drinking and driving laws was implemented in a college community.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationsIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_96911_1

DRINKING AND BIKING DEADLY IN NYC

Research Summary, Join Together, April 10, 2009

One in five people who died in bicycle accidents in New York City had alcohol present in their bodies at the time of their fatal crash.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/drinking-and-biking-deadly-in.html>

See also: **BICYCLIST FATALITIES IN NEW YORK CITY: 1996-2005**

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a910021133~db=all~order=page>

RESULTS FROM A NATIONAL SURVEY OF CROWN PROSECUTORS AND DEFENSE COUNSEL ON IMPAIRED DRIVING IN CANADA: A "SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS" PERSPECTIVE

Robertson R, Vanlaar W, Simpson H, Boase P. Journal of Safety Research 2009, Safety Lit, March 16, 2009

This article summarizes the main findings from a study designed to examine the legal process in Canada as it applies to alcohol-impaired driving from the point of view of Crown prosecutors and defense counsel, and to identify evidentiary or procedural factors that may impact the legal process, the rights of the accused, and interactions of all parts in the legal process.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationsIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_96162_1

3. Demographic Groups

a. Youth and Young Adults

COLLEGE MEN UNIMPRESSED BY FEMALE BINGE DRINKERS

Research Summary, Join Together, March 11, 2009

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

Some college women may drink excessively to gain the attention of men, but new research from Loyola Marymount University suggests that drunk women are not as attractive to men as women believe.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/college-men-unimpressed-by.html>

See also: **WHAT MEN WANT: THE ROLE OF REFLECTIVE OPPOSITE-SEX NORMATIVE PREFERENCES IN ALCOHOL USE AMONG COLLEGE WOMEN**

<http://www.apa.org/journals/releases/adb231157.pdf>

b. Older Adults

OLDER DRINKERS RISK DEVELOPING TREMORS

Research Summary, Join Together, April 13, 2009

People over age 65 who consume more than three alcoholic drinks daily face double the risk of developing involuntary tremors as nondrinkers, according to researchers who studied elderly drinkers in Spain.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/older-drinkers-risk.html>

See also: **POPULATION-BASED STUDY OF BASELINE ETHANOL CONSUMPTION AND RISK OF INCIDENT ESSENTIAL TREMOR**

<http://jnnp.bmj.com/cgi/content/abstract/jnnp.2008.162701v1>

EFFECTS OF ACUTE ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN OLDER AND YOUNGER ADULTS: PERCEIVED IMPAIRMENT VERSUS PSYCHOMOTOR PERFORMANCE

Gilbertson R, Ceballos NA, Prather R, Nixon SJ. Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs 2009, Safety Lit, March 9, 2009

Perceived impairment and psychomotor performance following acute alcohol administration in older (ages 50-74, n = 42; 22 male) and younger (ages 25-35, n = 26; 12 male) adults were investigated in this study.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citations%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_95916_1

4. Alcohol Controls / Liability

Nothing to report

5. Health and Safety

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

FROGS REVEAL CLUES ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL DURING DEVELOPMENT

Research Summary, Science Daily, April 13, 2009

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) and Fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) cause malformations in babies, including facial defects, short stature, and mental and behavioral abnormalities.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/04/090406072910.htm>

See also: **ETHANOL INDUCES EMBRYONIC MALFORMATIONS BY COMPETING FOR RETINALDEHYDE DEHYDROGENASE ACTIVITY DURING VERTEBRATE GASTRULATION**

<http://dmm.biologists.org/content/2/5-6/295>

b. Low / High Risk Drinking / Harm Reduction

HALF OF ALCOHOL CONSUMED IN EXCESS, CANADIAN STUDY ESTIMATES

Research Summary, Join Together, April 16, 2009

Excessive drinking accounts for at least half of all alcoholic drinks consumed in Canada, according to a new study from the University of Victoria's Center for Addictions Research.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/half-of-alcohol-consumed-in.html>

STUDY SAYS ALCOHOL AFFECTS RISK OF SECOND BREAST CANCER

Research Summary, Join Together, April 3, 2009

New research suggests a relationship between alcohol use and increased risk of recurring breast cancer.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/study-says-alcohol-affects.html>

See also: **ALCOHOL INTAKE AND CIGARETTE SMOKING AND RISK OF A CONTRALATERAL BREAST CANCER**

<http://aje.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/169/8/962>

BLOOD ALCOHOL CONCENTRATIONS AMONG BAR PATRONS: A MULTI-LEVEL STUDY OF DRINKING BEHAVIOR.

Clapp JD, Reed MB, Min JW, Shillington AM, Croff JM, Holmes MR, Trim RS. Drug and Alcohol Dependence 2009, Safety Lit March 9, 2009

This paper presents data from a study that collected observational data, survey data, and breath samples to estimate blood alcohol concentrations (BrAC) from patrons attending 30bars.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citations%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_95561_1

BINGE-DRINKING IN BRITAIN AS A SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PHENOMENON: THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GROUNDED THEORETICAL MODEL.

Van Wersch A, Walker W. Journal of Health Psychology 2009, Safety Lit, March 2, 2009

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

Techniques and procedures of Strauss and Corbin's grounded theory were used to develop a conditional matrix on binge-drinking in Britain, reflecting data of 32 participants, aged between 22 and 58.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citations%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_93870_1

RISK OF ATRIAL FIBRILLATION RISES IN WOMEN CONSUMING 2 OR MORE DRINKS PER DAY

Research Summary, Alcohol, Other Drugs and Health, Current Evidence, April 14, 2009

Despite consistent results from studies among men, studies assessing the effect of regular alcohol consumption on the risk of atrial fibrillation among women have provided inconsistent results.

http://www.bu.edu/aodhealth/issues/issue_mar09/arnsten_conen.html

MODERATE DRINKERS ARE AT LOWER RISK OF RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

Research Summary, Alcohol, Other Drugs and Health, Current Evidence, April 14, 2009

The goal of this study was to determine the association between risk of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and alcohol consumption in combination with smoking and the HLA-DRB1 shared epitope (SE).

http://www.bu.edu/aodhealth/issues/issue_mar09/ellison_kallberg.html

HEAVY EPISODIC DRINKING, NOT AVERAGE ALCOHOL INTAKE, INCREASES RISK OF STROKE

Research Summary, Alcohol, Other Drugs and Health, Current Evidence, April 14, 2009

To evaluate the effect of drinking patterns on stroke risk, researchers in Finland conducted a prospective cohort study of 15,965 men and women age 25 to 64 years who participated in a national risk factor survey.

http://www.bu.edu/aodhealth/issues/issue_mar09/ellison_sundell.html

c. Crime / Violence / Injury Prevention

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION, ALCOHOL OUTLETS, AND THE RISK OF BEING ASSAULTED WITH A GUN

Branas CC, Elliott MR, Richmond TS, Culhane DP, Wiebe DJ. Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research 2009, Safety Lit, April 6, 2009

We conducted a population-based case-control study to better delineate the relationship between individual alcohol consumption, alcohol outlets in the surrounding environment, and being assaulted with a gun.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citations%5B%5D=citjournalarticle_97009_1

VIOLENCE SPIKES NEAR ALCOHOL TAKEOUT SHOPS

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

Research Summary, Join Together, March 17, 2009

Researchers who studied assault cases in Philadelphia concluded that people have a significantly higher chance of being shot near stores that sell alcohol to go.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/violence-spikes-near-alcohol.html>

See also: **ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION, ALCOHOL OUTLETS, AND THE RISK OF BEING ASSAULTED WITH A GUN**

<http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122251983/abstract?CRETRY=1&SRENTRY=0>

POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE WIDESPREAD PRACTICE OF 'PRE-DRINKING' OR 'PRE-GAMING' BEFORE GOING TO PUBLIC DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS: ARE CURRENT PREVENTION STRATEGIES BACKFIRING?

Wells S, Graham K, Purcell J., *Addiction* 2009, Safety Lit, March 2, 2009

To describe the research, policy and prevention implications of pre-drinking or pre-gaming; that is, planned heavy drinking prior to going to a public drinking establishment.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_93845_1

d. Addictions Treatment

CAN PRAZOSIN BE USED TO TREAT ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE?

Research Summary, Alcohol, Other Drugs and Health, Current Evidence, April 14, 2009

Prazosin, an alpha-1 adrenergic antagonist, may reduce central nervous system adrenergic activity and disrupt alcohol reinforcement and relapse.

http://www.bu.edu/aodhealth/issues/issue_mar09/kraemer_simpson.html

BRIEF FAMILY TREATMENT IN PRIMARY CARE MIGHT LESSEN THE BURDEN OF HAVING AN ADDICTED RELATIVE

Research Summary, Alcohol, Other Drugs and Health, Current Evidence, April 14, 2009

Addiction adversely affects family members, but it is unknown whether primary care interventions can ameliorate this burden.

http://www.bu.edu/aodhealth/issues/issue_mar09/friedmann_copello.html

STUDY LINKS GENE CLUSTERS TO MULTIPLE ADDICTIONS

Research Summary, Join Together, March 25, 2009

A paper from addiction experts at the University of Virginia Health System and the University of Michigan presents new insight into the common gene clusters associated with addiction

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/study-links-gene-clusters-to.html>

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

STOP-SMOKING DRUG MIGHT WORK FOR DRINKERS, TOO

Research Summary, Join Together, March 5, 2009

Varenicline is already sold as a stop-smoking drug under the name Chantix, but now researchers say the drug also may help heavy drinkers cut down on their alcohol consumption.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/stop-smoking-drug-might.html>

See also: **VARENICLINE REDUCES ALCOHOL SELF-ADMINISTRATION IN HEAVY-DRINKING SMOKERS**

http://www.sciencedirect.com/science?_ob=ArticleURL&_udi=B6T4S-4VPV8V2-4&_user=10&_coverDate=02%2F27%2F2009&_alid=878225326&_rdoc=1&_fmt=high&_orig=search&_cdi=4982&_sort=d&_docanchor=&_view=c&_ct=3&_acct=C000050221&_version=1&_urlVersion=0&_userid=10&md5=3acaae5cbabb295cc0101c2ae8b9ec51

6. Workplace

ASSESSING BARRIERS TO CHANGE IN DRINKING BEHAVIOR: RESULTS OF AN ONLINE EMPLOYEE SCREENING PROGRAM

Aseltine RH, Demarco FJ, Wallenstein GV, Jacobs DG., Work 2009, Safety Lit, March 16, 2009

The impact of alcohol abuse on worker productivity is considerable and appears to be increasing over time.

http://www.safetylit.org/citations/index.php?fuseaction=citations.viewdetails&citationIds%5b%5d=citjournalarticle_96126_1

7. Influencing Policy

REPORT IDENTIFIES LIFESAVING ALCOHOL LAWS

Research Summary, Join Together, April 9, 2009

Laws that prevent alcohol purchases and possession by youth are the most effective at preventing drunk-driving fatalities, according to a new report that also praises as effective license suspensions for underage alcohol offenses and zero-tolerance laws for drivers under 21 found with alcohol in their system.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/report-identifies-lifesaving.html>

8. Practitioner Resources

IS THE 3-ITEM AUDIT-C AS ACCURATE AS THE FULL 10-ITEM AUDIT IN DETECTING UNHEALTHY ALCOHOL USE?

Research Summary, Alcohol, Other Drugs and Health, Current Evidence, April 14, 2009

Alcohol Research Digest – March / April 2009

Although the 10-item Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) and its first 3 items, the AUDIT-C (for “consumption”), are recommended screening tests for unhealthy alcohol use, their comparative accuracy is not clear.

http://www.bu.edu/aodhealth/issues/issue_mar09/kraemer_kriston.html

9. Other

Nothing to report