

MEETING ABSTRACTS

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A1

Single episode of harmful alcohol use resulting in injury: a missed opportunity for brief intervention in the emergency department

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Background: The aim of this paper is to evaluate the extent to which injured patients admitted to the emergency department (ED) with an alcohol-related injury may go undetected if signs of intoxication or withdrawal, a positive blood alcohol concentration (BAC), or signs of alcohol dependence or harmful drinking are relied upon as indicators of alcohol involvement in the injury event.

Materials and methods: An alcohol-related injury (drinking within six hours prior to the injury event and causal attribution of injury to drinking) is examined by the amount consumed, BAC and usual drinking pattern for those with and without alcohol dependence or harmful drinking in a representative sample of 18,369 injured ED patients in 23 countries.

Results: 18.8% reported drinking in the six hours prior to injury, and 47.1% of these attributed a causal association of their injury to drinking. 16.3% of those reporting drinking and 10.3% of those attributing a causal association were negative for dependence or harmful drinking. The vast majority of both groups reported no heavy (5+) drinking occasions during the last year and had a BAC of < 0.05 or negative. About a third of both groups were female and most were aged 50 and younger.

Conclusions: Findings here suggest that some individuals may have an alcohol-related injury due to a single episode of drinking without a history of harmful use or dependence, and underscores the clinical and public health relevance of screening for these individuals in the ED to identify those who may benefit from a brief intervention. These findings also underscore the utility of a new diagnostic category of a single episode of harmful drinking proposed in the 11th revision of the International Classification of Disease.

A2

Social workers' and their clients' attitudes toward alcohol screening and counselling

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Background: Social work professionals frequently encounter clients with alcohol-related problems and thus can play a central role in the early identification of problems. However, there has been little research on how professionals or their clients perceive alcohol

screening and counselling. This study explores the topic and presents a qualitative analysis of social workers' and their clients' attitudes toward alcohol screening and counselling. The analytical focus is on how the two parties constructed screening and counselling in their arguments and did professionals and clients do this in the same way or were there differences between them?

Materials and methods: The study employs a qualitative attitude approach. The aim of the approach is to explore the construction of attitudes in argumentative talk. Social work professionals (N = 14) and their clients (N = 14) were asked to comment on the eight statements concerning identification and management of alcohol-related problems. The analysis was performed in two stages. In the classifying analysis, different types of stands or justifications towards each statement were identified. Then, the interpretative analysis brought categories into a conceptual dialogue with relevant theoretical concepts and discussions. Here, the primary objective is to explore how alcohol screening and counselling were constructed as attitude objects.

Results: Analysis of the qualitative data reveals that both professionals and clients constructed alcohol screening and counselling similarly as: (1) useful tools for motivation, (2) self-evident parts of social work and (3) tools for discussing sensitive topics. However, compared with the clients, the professionals appeared to associate alcohol screening and counselling more closely with the client's fulfilment of responsibilities and the ability to function well. On the other hand, compared with the professionals, the clients connected alcohol screening and counselling more closely to privacy-threatening interaction.

Conclusions: The professionals and their clients appeared to have common ways to construct alcohol screening and counselling. However, the professionals focused on the client's responsibilities and well-being; the clients place the same emphasis on interaction and discussion about privacy-threatening topics.

A3

Cessation of injection drug use following brief assessment interventions for young adults

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Background: The opioid epidemic in the US has severely impacted young adults, and threatens to reverse prior successes in reducing HIV and HCV transmission among people who inject drugs (PWID). We conducted subgroup analyses examining injection cessation among participants in a behavioral intervention trial designed for young adults who use drugs in the nightclub scene.

Materials and methods: Participants were enrolled in a 3-arm randomized trial testing the efficacy of age peer interviewer- or self-administered health and social risk assessments compared to

