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ARTICLES:

- Standardizing and Evaluating the “Presenter” Variable in the Peer vs. Adult Debate in Youth Drug Prevention Research..... 16-34
Charles J. Hobson, Ph.D., Heather McCarthy, M.A., M.P.A., Sherice Murff, Adrienne Thomas, C.P.P., Desila Rosetti, M.P.A. & Natalie G. Murillo

ABSTRACT

A “train-the-trainer” workshop was developed to evaluate and enhance presentational skills and offered to 14 youth in grades 6-12 and 9 administrators from youth-focused community agencies in Indiana. Upon workshop completion, 7 youth and 6 adults functioned as presenters of a 1½-hour module on refusal and resistance skills to 95 youth enrolled in after-school programs. Attendees completed a 5-item pre-/post-test of knowledge acquisition, a 5-item survey of perceived training effectiveness, and a 12-item measure of perceived trainer effectiveness. Findings indicated: (1) Both youth and adult train-the-trainer workshop participants demonstrated significant presentational competence gains and (2) trained presenters (both peer and adult) using standardized materials and delivery received consistently favorable evaluations.

- Where’s the Bar? Perceptions of Heavy and Problem Drinking among College Students35-53
Dan J. Segrist & Jonathan C. Pettibone

ABSTRACT

Two-hundred-and-twelve college students read a vignette about a 21-year-old male described as a college student or a retail management trainee drinking at a bar alone or with friends. Participants provided estimates of the number of drinks that indicate heavy drinking in this situation. Participants also provided estimates of the number of drinks and drinking occasions they thought would signify a drinking problem for the target. Estimates of the number of drinks representing heavy drinking were significantly higher than the current five drink binge/episodic heavy drinking definition in the literature. Occupational status of the target and participant gender effected perceptions of heavy drinking and problem drinking. Implications for prevention and health education efforts are discussed.

Keywords: heavy drinking, problem drinking, perceptions, alcohol

- Treatment of Alcohol Intoxication at University Health Services: Examining Clinical Characteristics, Drinking Patterns, and Adherence with Referral 54-68
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ABSTRACT

Objective: This study examines demographics, clinical characteristics and drinking patterns of students presenting with alcohol intoxication at a university health service. Participants: The sample included one hundred students (50% female, 48% freshmen) treated for alcohol intoxication at university student health services. Complete medical charts were obtained for 80 students (43% female, 46% freshmen). Methods: A prospective case review was performed between September 2005 and March 2006. Results: Although males reported having more drinks before admission, drinking more frequently, and having more drinks per drinking day than females, there were no other gender differences. Freshmen comprised almost half the admissions, but there were no significant differences in drinking patterns across school years. While only 54% of students were given follow-up referrals, 72.2% of students complied with recommended referrals. Additional assessment information included alcohol use disorders screening scores, history of previous alcohol intoxication, problems related to use, symptoms of anxiety and depression, and use of anti-depressant medication. Conclusions: These results suggest that further investigations of student characteristics and experiences prior to contact with university health services are warranted and may be necessary to the development and implementation of programs to reduce harmful alcohol consumption.

Alcohol and Drug Use among College Student Adult Children of Alcoholics.....69-88
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Jennifer A. Morrow & Keith Klostermann*

ABSTRACT

The present paper compared drinking and drug use in Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOAs), compared to non-ACOAs, among college students. Participants were 572 undergraduates. ACOAs were more likely to be current drug users than non-ACOAs. ACOAs reported initiating alcohol use earlier than non-ACOAs; however, ACOAs did not drink more often or more heavily than non-ACOAs. Among ACOAs, suspecting one's mother or both parents of alcohol abuse predicted greater likelihood of lifetime drinking; suspecting one's father of alcohol abuse was associated with more frequent drinking during the school year. The fact that ACOA status was not associated with the frequency and amount of alcohol consumed may reflect that 73.3% of the sample were drinkers, and 31.9% met criteria for binge drinking in the previous month.