JOURNAL OF ALCOHOL and DRUG EDUCATION

Volume 56, No. 3, December 2012

ARTICLES:

College Student Awareness of Signs of Alcohol	Poisoning	59-76
Amie Haas, PhD & Sergio Flores.	BA	

ABSTRACT

This study examined the prevalence and characteristics of students who could correctly discriminate signs of alcohol poisoning from other physiological complaints. Freshmen (N=336) completed an online survey assessing alcohol use and the ability to identify signs of alcohol poisoning from other physiological symptoms. Only 36.6% of students could correctly identify all six signs of alcohol poisoning. Many students made errors of commission, endorsing distractor items. Only 24.7% of students showed correct discrimination and regression analyses indicated better discriminability of correct symptoms by heavier, more frequent drinkers, non-Caucasian and non-Greek affiliated students. Findings suggest that current psychoeducational efforts may not be resonating with students, and providers and administrators may want to consider alternative means to make this important information more salient to students.

ABSTRACT

Our study examined the relationship between food and alcohol access by neighborhood socioeconomic status (SES) in a large urban county in Minnesota (n=298 census tracts). We hypothesized that the number of food stores would be negatively associated with the number of liquor stores in each census tract, and that the negative relationship between food and alcohol access would be stronger in poorer neighborhoods. Poisson regression was used to estimate effects. We found that the relationship between food and alcohol access differed by neighborhood SES, with higher income neighborhoods having more supermarkets and grocery stores and liquor stores (RR=1.47; p<.0001). Results suggest that food and alcohol access are interconnected and should be treated as related rather than distinct public health issues.

Key words: food access, alcohol access, socioeconomic status, diet, alcohol