

REDUCTION OR CESSATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONSUMPTION

VOLUME 20A

This publication represents the views and expert opinions of an IARC Working Group on the Evaluation of Cancer-Preventive Interventions, which met in Lyon, 22–26 May 2023

LYON, FRANCE - 2024

IARC HANDBOOKS OF
CANCER PREVENTION

GLOSSARY

Alcohol use disorder	A medical condition characterized by an impaired ability to stop or control alcohol use despite adverse social, occupational, or health consequences. It encompasses the conditions that some people refer to as alcohol abuse, alcohol dependence, alcohol addiction, and the colloquial term alcoholism. According to World Health Organization (WHO) nomenclature, alcohol use disorders include two diagnostic categories of the 11th revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-11): alcohol dependence and harmful pattern of alcohol use.
Cirrhosis	A consequence of chronic liver inflammation that is followed by diffuse hepatic fibrosis, in which the normal hepatic architecture is replaced by regenerative hepatic nodules, which eventually leads to liver failure.
Dysbiosis	A microbial imbalance on or inside the body, commonly observed within the digestive tract, where it has been associated with illness.
Endotoxaemia	The presence of endotoxins in the blood; endotoxins are toxic substances bound to the cell wall of certain bacteria.
Genomic polymorphism	The presence of two or more genomic variant forms of a specific DNA sequence that occur among different individuals or populations. The most common type of polymorphism involves variation at a single nucleotide (also called a single-nucleotide polymorphism, or SNP). Other genomic polymorphisms can involve longer stretches of DNA.
Heavy episodic drinking	Consuming 60 grams or more of pure alcohol on at least one occasion in the past 30 days. A consumption of 60 grams of pure alcohol corresponds approximately to 6 standard alcoholic drinks in many countries. Definitions by other organizations may differ in the level of consumption or the amount of pure alcohol per drink, and may be sex-specific.
Heterozygote	A diploid individual with different alleles at one or more genetic loci.
Homozygote	A diploid individual with identical alleles at one or more genetic loci.
Low- and middle-income countries	Countries with a gross national income (GNI) per capita of up to US\$ 13 845 in 2022.
Michaelis constant (K_M)	The concentration of the substrate at which the reaction velocity is 50% of the maximum velocity (V_{max}).
Microbiome	The microbiome contains the microbiota (community of microorganisms) and their theatre of activity (structural elements, metabolites/signal molecules, and the surrounding environmental conditions).
Population attributable fraction	The proportion of an outcome that would be avoided in a population over a given period of time by decreasing the population's exposure to a risk factor to a theoretical-minimum-risk level.
Population preventable fraction	The proportion of an outcome that would be avoided in a population over a given period of time by decreasing the population's exposure to a risk factor to an attainable level.

Pyroptosis	An inflammatory form of cell death that not only protects multicellular organisms from invasion by pathogenic bacteria and microbial infections but can also lead to sepsis and lethal septic shock if overactivated.
Recorded alcohol	Alcoholic beverages consumed according to the official statistics at the country level based on production, import, export, and sales or taxation data and intended for consumption.
Secosteroid hormone	A molecule that is very similar structurally to steroids but in which one of the four carbon rings is broken and the B-ring carbon atoms are not joined. An example is vitamin D.
Sociodemographic index	A summary measure of overall development based on educational attainment, fertility, and income per capita within a location.
Surrogate alcohol	Non-beverage alcohol that is not officially intended for human consumption.
Total adult alcohol per capita consumption (APC)	The total amount of alcohol consumed per person (individuals aged ≥ 15 years) over a calendar year, in litres of pure alcohol. The estimate is the sum of the 3-year average of the per capita (≥ 15 years) recorded alcohol consumption and of the per capita (≥ 15 years) unrecorded alcohol consumption for a calendar year, adjusted for tourist consumption.
Tourist consumption	Tourist consumption takes into account consumption by tourists visiting the country and consumption by inhabitants visiting other countries. Positive figures denote alcohol consumption of outbound tourists being greater than alcohol consumption by inbound tourists, and negative numbers the opposite. Tourist consumption is based on United Nations tourist statistics.
Unrecorded alcohol	Alcohol products that are not taxed and are outside the official system of government control, such as home or informally produced (legal or illegal) alcohol, smuggled alcohol, surrogate alcohol, or alcohol products obtained through cross-border shopping (i.e. recorded in a different jurisdiction).
WHO African Region	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.
WHO Eastern Mediterranean Region	Afghanistan, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, West Bank and Gaza Strip, Yemen.
WHO European Region	Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, The Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan.
WHO Region of the Americas	Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, USA, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
WHO South-East Asia Region	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste.
WHO Western Pacific Region	Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cook Islands, Fiji, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Japan, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Macao Special Administrative Region, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Taiwan (China), Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Viet Nam.