Excellence in Prevention – descriptions of the prevention programs and strategies with the greatest evidence of success

Name of Program/Strategy: Restrictions on Price Promotions and Alcohol Discounts—Changing Conditions of Availability

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1. Overview and description

Regulation or restriction of "happy hours" and other price promotions of alcohol (e.g., two drinks for the price of one, women drink for free), especially in on-premise outlets (i.e., bars and restaurants). Although not specific to college populations, the study has clear implications for college students; many bars surrounding campuses attract students by promoting drink specials. Restrictions on happy hours can be implemented by individual outlets, campuses (if a licensed establishment is on campus), local communities (if communities are not preempted by state law) and the state. In non-licensed settings on campus where alcohol is served, event planners may want to limit the amount of free alcohol available.

2. Implementation considerations (if available)

1

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3. Descriptive information

Areas of Interest	Substance abuse prevention
Outcomes	
Outcome Categories	Alcohol
Ages	
Gender	Male Female
Races/Ethnicities	American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Black or African American Hispanic or Latino White Race/ethnicity unspecified
Settings	
Geographic Locations	Urban Suburban Rural and/or frontier Tribal
Implementation History	
NIH Funding/CER Studies	
Adaptations	
Adverse Effects	
IOM Prevention Categories	Universal

4. Outcomes

Scientific Evidence

Babor, Mendelson, Greenberg, and Kuehnle (1978) found that happy hours were associated with higher consumption among both light and heavy drinkers.

Although this is a reasonable strategy, there is no research on its effectiveness.

2

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- 7. Who is using this program/strategy

Washington Counties	Oregon Counties

8. Study populations

9. Quality of studies

The documents below were reviewed for Quality of Research. The research point of contact can provide information regarding the studies reviewed and the availability of additional materials, including those from more recent studies that may have been conducted.

References

Babor, T. F., Mendelson, J. H., Greenberg, I., & Kuehnle, J. (1978). Experimental analysis of the "happy hour": Effects of purchase price on alcohol consumption. Psychopharmocology, 58, 35-41.

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