

News Flush

...In the know while you go



What do you need to know about Alcohol Poisoning?

What is it?

- An overdose of alcohol that interferes with the body's core functions
- Results from consuming an excessive amount of alcohol in a short amount of time (binge drinking)
- Potentially fatal

What are the Effects?

Alcohol poisoning makes the victim lose control over functions such as breathing. Extreme cases can lead to suffocation while vomiting, or going into a coma.

What are the Symptoms?

- Confusion
- Lack of cognitive function
- Pale, cold and/or clammy skin
- Low or irregular breathing
- Vomiting repeatedly or uncontrollably
- Unconscious/passed out

*You can't
"sleep off"
alcohol
poisoning!*

What to do

if you suspect someone of having alcohol poisoning?

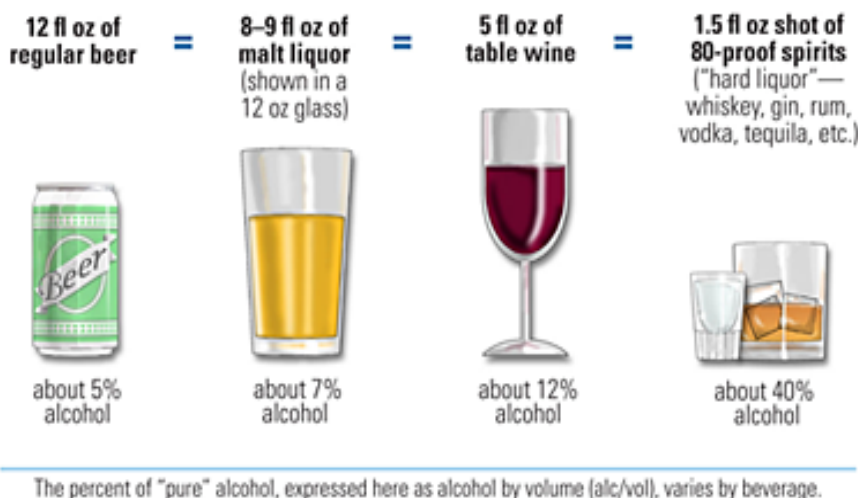
Call 911

immediately!

If they are passed out or on the ground, place them on their side, with one arm supporting their head, and one leg bent to prevent them from rolling over.

What's the worst that could happen if you...

- A. Make the call.....Friends mad or grounded for a little while
- B. DON'T make the call..... Potential death of a friend or loved one



What is binge drinking? How much is too much?

Depends on age, gender, and weight

Male: 5 or more drinks within 2 hours

Female: 4 or more drinks within 2 hours

Every year in the U.S. about

5,000

youth under the age of 21 die as a result of underage alcohol use.

About 1/3 of those are traffic related deaths.

The rest result from unintentional injuries (falls, burns, drowning), alcohol poisoning, homicide, and suicide.

Excessive drinking can also lead to other serious injuries, impaired judgment, and increased risk for physical and sexual assault.