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Alcohol poisoning

Symptoms & causes

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Diagnosis



In addition to checking for visible signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning, your doctor will likely order blood and urine tests to check blood alcohol levels and identify other signs of alcohol toxicity, such as low blood sugar.

Treatment

Alcohol poisoning treatment usually involves supportive care while your body rids itself of the alcohol. This typically includes:

- Careful monitoring
- Prevention of breathing or choking problems
- Oxygen therapy
- Fluids given through a vein (intravenously) to prevent dehydration
- Use of vitamins and glucose to help prevent serious complications of alcohol poisoning



Adults and children who have accidentally consumed methanol or isopropyl alcohol may need hemodialysis — a mechanical way of filtering waste and toxins from your system — to speed the removal of alcohol from their bloodstream.



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Lifestyle and home remedies

Home remedies for alcohol poisoning won't work. This is an emergency situation.

Dangerous myths

You can't reverse the effects of alcohol poisoning, and you could actually make things worse through some actions. Here's what doesn't work:

- Sleeping it off you can lose consciousness while asleep
- Black coffee or caffeine this does not counteract the effects of alcohol poisoning
- A cold shower the shock of cold can cause a loss of consciousness
- Walking it off this does not increase the speed at which alcohol leaves your body

By Mayo Clinic Staff



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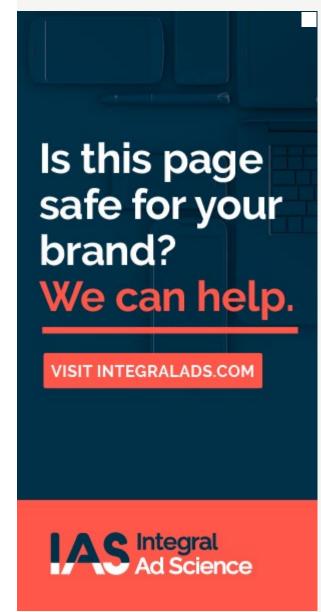
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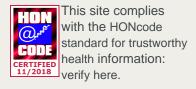
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