

The study on non-fatal injuries and pattern of Alcohol drink among patients at Emergency room : MaharajNakorn Chiang Mai Hospital and Nakornping Hospital.

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### **Abstact**

Alcohol drinking is related to the cause of injury. Emergency unit is one of the best contexts for studying on the result of alcohol drinking towards injury. The study aims to examine alcohol drinking behavior and the ratio of patient with injury caused by alcohol drinking at emergency unit.

### **Method**

This study uses Case Crossover Design to collect the data in 3 periods ; normal period (Normal), Buddhist Lent period (Low) and New Year period (High). The breath samples were collected by the ALCO-SENSOR III breathalyzer, and the questionnaire was used to collect data in a face-to-face interview.

### **Result**

The study found that 1,060 injured patients(Normal 500, Buddhist Lent 280 , New Year 280). 14.3% drank alcohol before the incidents (Normal 20.6%, Buddhist Lent 10.4%, New Year 13.6%). 15.2% had alcohol in breath (Normal 17.6%, Buddhist Lent 10.0%, New Year 12.5%). Alcohol use occurred within 6 hours prior to injury and the same 6-hour window on the previous day. The odds ratio for one or more standard drinks vs none was 11.5 (95% confidence interval, 6.7 to 19.6); for four or more drinks vs three or fewer, 14.1 (95% confidence interval, 7.5 to 26.7). Injured patients drank alcohol during normal period 1.9 times more than during Buddhist Lent period (95% CI 1.2-3.0), and 0.6 times less than New year period (95% CI 0.4-1.0).

### **Conclusion**

These findings have important public health consequences. Alcohol drinking 6 hour prior to the incident results in more risk for injury.