



Grundtvig Learning Partnership 2013 - 2015
Think Before Drink

WHEN WOMEN DRINK ...

PHENOMENON OF ALCOHOLISM IN WOMEN'S FIELD

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Il filo
d'Arianna





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SOME ALARMING DATA

- Official statistics show that about 20% of alcoholics are women
- The phenomenon is on the rise and mainly affects women between 35 and 44 years
- The female body, in contrast to the male has a greater sensitivity and physiological vulnerability





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UN FENOMENO IN

- Alcohol dependence is common among women of all ages and social membership
- There are different factors that influence the evolution of the phenomenon (genetic and environmental familiarity, marital status, occupation, ethnic origin, etc.)

TARGET FEATU





ALCOHOLIC HABITS AND HEALTH WHAT HAPPENS?

- Women have a lower body mass than men and a smaller amount of body water and less efficient mechanisms of metabolism of alcohol.
- Risk: ovarian failure, risk of breast cancer, mood swings, etc.
- Women who drink then, unfortunately, have a greater chance of becoming victims of physical assault and / or sexual abuse, as under the influence of alcohol may appear more vulnerable





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SOCIAL FACTORS: FEMALE ALCOHOL...WHY?

- Against women with problems of addiction to alcohol, there are common prejudices and a blaming attitude, therefore women with alcohol problems live more social isolation than men.
- Isolation and guilt often surround the abuse of alcohol
- In the great majority of cases is associated with a depression





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WOMAN AND PREGNANCY

- the use and abuse of alcohol in pregnant women can cause birth defects and mental retardation of the fetus.
- These problems can vary depending on the amount of alcohol. It is considered to be the leading cause of mental retardation of genetic origin.
- We must remember and emphasize that the mother's blood alcohol content is equal to fetal alcohol.





ALCOHOL AND OLDER WOMEN

- The behaviors toward alcohol of women over the age of 65 is of particular concern
- Often the cause is the lack of education on the consumption of alcohol.
- They prefer to order wine, beer and bitters in the context of a private or domestic use, often continuing to keep their habit hidden for fear of social disapproval.
- This makes it even more difficult to detect any problems caused by alcohol and is often the reason for a late reply but frequent alcohol dependence among pensioners and housewives of the "third age".





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CONCLUSIONS

Alcohol is a cause in Italy of:

- about 3% of all deaths in women and 6.5% of men
- 3% of all deaths for female cancers (breast, uterus, etc..)
- 2% of female deaths due to cardiovascular diseases
- 40% of deaths from cirrhosis of the liver recorded among women
- 12% of female mortality due to accidents
- 12% of female mortality due to inflicted injuries



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QUOTATIONS

“That's the problem with drinking, I thought, as I poured myself a drink. If something bad happens you drink in an attempt to forget; if something good happens you drink in order to celebrate; and if nothing happens you drink to make something happen.”

Charles Bukowski, *Women*

“It is a need of nature that man sometimes, even without sleep, stuns you. Hence the use of tobacco, alcohol and opiates.

Johann Wolfgang Goethe, *Maxims and Reflections*





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