

Know the signs. SAVE A LIFE

Intoxication vs. Alcohol Poisoning



Signs of Intoxication

Coordination

- Stands with feet wide apart for balance
- Leans against structures for support
- Fumbles with objects in their hands slurs or trips over words

Reduced Judgement & Inhibitions

- Becomes overly excited
- Speaks loudly and/or profanely
- Throws objects
- Giggles or laughs for no apparent reason

Vision

- Red or watery eyes
- Droopy eyelids or tired appearance
- Squints continuously
- Closes or covers one eye to remove double vision

Reflexes

- Slow or deliberate movements
- Slow or no response to questions
- Slow or no reaction to actions such as spilling a beer on oneself (i.e. party fouls)

Manners and Appearance

- Frequently rubs hands through face and hair
- Sometimes has involuntary eye movement
- Frequent trips to the bathroom
- Strong, stale odor of alcohol

Signs of Alcohol Poisoning

(Use the pneumatic device **MUST HELP**)

Mental Confusion

Unresponsive

Snoring/Gasping for Air

Throwing Up

Hypothermia/Cold Clammy Skin

Erratic or Slow Breathing

Loss of Consciousness

Paleness or Blueness of Skin

Drunk vs. Dying

The difference between the signs of intoxication and the signs of alcohol poisoning is the difference between dying & being drunk.

If it looks like they need help, get them help.

Alcohol Poisoning Remedy Myths

Remember, home remedies are myths and are ineffective & they can also be very dangerous

'Here, drink this black coffee'

Caffeine can mask the symptoms of intoxication and may also dehydrate the person

'Just take a cold shower'

The shock of the cold water could cause the person to lose consciousness

'Just walk "it" off'

The person may become more dehydrated

'Just sleep "it" off'

The person could lose consciousness while sleeping

'Just throw up, you will feel better'

Due to the way alcohol is processed in the body this will not prevent alcohol poisoning and it could cause choking or asphyxiation. Also, BACs continue to rise even if the person quits drinking. Vomiting will not prevent this increase in BAC.

911 LIFELINE LAW

There were many lives that could have been saved if their friends had taken them to the hospital or called for medical assistance. Saving yourself from trouble should not replace saving someone's life. That is one of the reasons an immunity law was passed in 2011.

This law is in place to take away the fear of getting in trouble and give you the incentive to get help for someone who desperately needs it.

The 911 Lifeline Law says

A minor will not be charged with possessing/ consuming alcohol if they:

- requested emergency medical assistance in response to the possible alcohol overdose of the minor or another person
- were the first person to make a request for medical assistance
- remained on the scene until medical assistance arrived; and
- cooperated with medical assistance and law enforcement personnel.

As members of an organization and as a friend, it is important to look out for your peers and friends. If you support your friends and peers during good and bad times, then you should prevent them from dying or suffering serious health consequences as well. If you think someone needs medical assistance, you need to take the initiative and take them to the hospital or call 911.

You will not be given a citation for alcohol possession or consumption, and you are also saving your friend's life. There is nothing worse than having to live with the memory of a friend who died because you were afraid to make a phone call. You want to be sure to share memories, not regrets.