

Reducing Alcohol-Impaired Driving: School-Based Programs, Peer Organizations

Task Force Finding

Intervention Definition

School-based programs to reduce alcohol-impaired driving include: instructional programs; peer organizations such as Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD); and social norming campaigns. Instructional programs can address the problems of drunk driving (DD) and riding with drunk drivers (RDD) alone, or have a broader focus on alcohol or other substance use. Peer organizations engage students in a variety of DD and RDD prevention activities. Social norming campaigns generally are ongoing, multiyear public information programs on college campuses that aim to reduce alcohol use by providing students with objective normative information regarding student alcohol consumption in order to reduce misperceptions and ultimately change their behavior.

Task Force Finding (October 2003)*

According to the Community Guide's rules of evidence, there was insufficient evidence to determine the effectiveness of peer organizations for reducing DD [driving after drinking] and RDD [riding with drinking drivers] due to an insufficient number of studies. Due to the grassroots nature of such organizations, it is also difficult to design studies that have both strong research designs and good intervention fidelity, although suggestions for designing such studies have been offered.

*From the following publication:

Elder RW, Nichols JL, Shults RA, et al. Effectiveness of school-based programs for reducing drinking and driving and driving and riding with drinking drivers: a systematic review. *Am J Prev Med* 2005;28(5S):288-304.

Publications

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Document last updated September 16, 2014