



Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

How does alcohol affect the brain?

People who drink are affected even before they show signs of being drunk, especially when it comes to **decision-making abilities**.

At first, alcohol causes people to feel upbeat and excited. But if drinking continues, the effects on the body—and the **potential risks**—*multiply*. Here's what can happen:

- **Inhibitions & memory:** Inhibitions are lost - leading to poor decision making. People may not remember things they say and do while intoxicated.
- **Decision-making skills:** People are more likely to be **impulsive** and may be at greater risk for making unwise decisions.
- **Coordination & physical control:** Drinking leads to loss of balance, slurred speech, and blurred vision.
- **Death:** Drinking too much alcohol can even lead to **death**.



PREVIEW

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Alcohol affects heart rate, body temperature, appetite & consciousness; danger of slowed breathing, choking and death

Alcohol continues to affect the brain and body long after the last drink has been finished. Alcohol in the stomach and intestines continues to enter the bloodstream, impairing judgment and coordination for hours.



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How does alcohol affect the brain?



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