

## **Causal effect of parental supply of alcohol and the age, quantity and frequency of supply across adolescence on young adult alcohol-related outcomes: A prospective cohort study**

Amy Peacock<sup>1,2</sup>, Wing See Yuen<sup>1</sup>, Mia Miller<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Henderson<sup>1</sup>, Raimondo Bruno<sup>2,1</sup>, Jim McCambridge<sup>3</sup>, Luz Palacios-Derflingher<sup>4</sup>, Delyse Hutchinson<sup>1,5,6,7</sup>, Nyanda McBride<sup>8</sup>, Veronica C. Boland<sup>1</sup>, Kypros Kypri<sup>9</sup>, Tim Slade<sup>10</sup>, Monika Wadolowski<sup>11</sup>, Jake Najman<sup>12</sup>, Louisa Degenhardt<sup>1</sup>, <sup>#</sup>Richard P. Mattick<sup>1</sup> & <sup>#</sup>Philip J. Clare<sup>1,13,14</sup>

<sup>1</sup>National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW Sydney, Australia, <sup>2</sup>School of Psychological Sciences, University of Tasmania, Australia, <sup>3</sup>Department of Health Sciences, University of York, United Kingdom, <sup>4</sup>Stats Central, UNSW Sydney, Australia, <sup>5</sup>Centre for Social and Early Emotional Development, Deakin University, Australia, <sup>6</sup>Department of Paediatrics, The University of Melbourne, Australia, <sup>7</sup>Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Royal Children's Hospital, University of Melbourne, Australia, <sup>8</sup>National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University, Australia, <sup>9</sup>School of Medicine and Public Health, University of Newcastle, Australia, <sup>10</sup>The Matilda Centre for Research in Mental Health and Substance Use, The University of Sydney, Australia, <sup>11</sup>Research and Innovation Portfolio, The University of Sydney, Australia, <sup>12</sup>School of Public Health, The University of Queensland, Australia, <sup>13</sup>Prevention Research Collaboration, The University of Sydney, Australia, <sup>14</sup>Charles Perkins Centre, The University of Sydney, Australia

# Joint senior author

Presenter's email: [Amy.Peacock@unsw.edu.au](mailto:Amy.Peacock@unsw.edu.au)

**Introduction:** Whilst recent work contradicts claims parental alcohol supply is 'safer' than no supply, the impact on outcomes beyond adolescence remains unknown. The aim of this study was to estimate the effect of parental alcohol supply across adolescence and earlier timing of supply on alcohol-related outcomes in young adulthood.

**Method:** The Australian Parental Supply of Alcohol Longitudinal Study (APSALS) comprised parent-adolescent dyads (adolescent mean age 12.9 years) recruited from schools in 2010/11. Adolescents (n=1,906) were surveyed annually until 2021 (Wave 11), also completing a modified Composite International Diagnostic Interview (CIDI) at Wave 11. Parents were surveyed annually until 2014/15. Primary exposure was parental supply of alcohol (sip/whole drink). Alcohol-related outcomes included: heavy episodic drinking (HED;  $\geq 4$  standard drinks), self-reported alcohol-related harms, DSM-IV alcohol abuse/dependence, and DSM-5 Alcohol Use Disorder (AUD). Targeted maximum likelihood estimation was used to estimate overall joint effects of parental supply (age 13-17) on outcomes (age 18-23), as well as dynamic (counterfactual) exposure patterns of supply occurring starting at a range of ages (13-17) and continuing thereafter.

**Key Findings:** Parental supply of any alcohol before or from age 12, or from age 15 years, was associated with greater risk of the following relative to no parental supply: any HED, self-reported alcohol-related harms, and meeting criteria for past 12-month DSM-5 AUD (CIDI). Risk of DSM-5 AUD was also elevated with supply from age 13. Similar findings were observed with supply of whole drinks or on  $\geq 3$  times per year.

**Discussions and Conclusions:** Parental alcohol supply in early or mid-adolescence increased risk of harm in early adulthood relative to no parental supply.

**Implications for Practice or Policy:** Parents can be supported through education on risks of early initiation and strategies to reduce supply. However, responsibility cannot be placed

solely on parents; identified gaps in Australia's approach to pricing, availability and marketing policy must be addressed in order to improve broader drinking culture.

**Disclosure of Interest Statement:** *The APSALS study was funded by a 2010-2014 Australian Research Council Discovery Project Grant, two Australian Rotary Health Mental Health Research Grants, and an NHMRC project grant from 2018-2022. Funding was also received from National Health and Medical Research Council Principal Research Fellowship Grants to RPM and KK; National Health and Medical Research Early Career Fellowship and Investigator Fellowship grants to AP and DH; National Health and Medical Research Council Project Grants to RPM for a Longitudinal Cohorts Research Consortium; a Research Innovation Grant from the Australian Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education; and the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, UNSW, which is supported by funding from the Australian Government under the Drug and Alcohol Program. AP has received untied educational funds from Seqirus for the post-marketing study of pharmaceutical opioids in the past five years; funds were for work unrelated to this study, ceased more than three years ago, and the organisation had no role in study design, conduct or reporting.*