

### CHEMICAL HEALTH TREND CORNER: **Smoking Alcohol!**

It's the dangerous new way teens are getting drunk -- and it's going viral. Now doctors say it could be deadly. It's called "smoking alcohol." You don't drink the booze, you inhale it. Sounds bizarre, but those vapors give out an instant high.



Here's the problem: Doctors say it's incredibly dangerous and can be extremely addictive. Pure alcohol shooting into your brain. Doctors are issuing an urgent warning: Don't try this at home.

Full article: [Click here.](#)

### **"Legal High" Benzo Fury May Harbor Addiction Risk**

A party drug available over the Internet and often taken by young people in Britain and the United States may harbor unknown risks because it has both stimulant and hallucinogenic effects, scientists said on Tuesday.

Researchers who analyzed the effect of the drug called "Benzo Fury" on the brains of rats found it had similar effects to some illegal drugs such as amphetamines or cocaine, which can cause hallucinations and are also addictive.

Full article: [Click here.](#)

### **Most Teen-Drinking Deaths aren't Traffic-Related**

MADD is warning parents of teenagers that drunk driving is not the only underage drinking concern. Its analysis of federal data estimates that just 32% of underage drinking deaths are traffic-related.



When it comes to teens and alcohol, drunken driving is far from the only thing that should concern parents.

That's the message from MADD, whose new analysis of alcohol-related deaths among people 15-20 estimates that 68% of fatalities connected to underage drinking are not traffic related.

Full article: [Click here.](#)

### ***One in Four Teens has Misused or Abused an Rx Drug at Least Once***

The Partnership at Drugfree.org and MetLife Foundation released our 24th annual survey on teen drug and alcohol abuse this morning.

This year's national study data on American teens confirms that one in four teens has misused or abused a prescription (Rx) drug at least once in their lifetime -- a dramatic 33 percent increase over the past five years. The new data from the Partnership Attitude Tracking Study (PATS) also found a significant rise in misuse or abuse of prescription stimulants, with one in eight teens (13 percent) now reporting that



they have misused or abused the Rx stimulants Ritalin or Adderall in their lifetime.

Contributing to this disturbing trend in teen medicine misuse and abuse are the lax attitudes of parents and caregivers. They are missing key opportunities to effectively communicate the dangers of Rx medicine misuse and abuse to their kids, while not safeguarding and disposing of their medications properly at home.

Steve Pasierb, President and CEO of The Partnership at [Drugfree.org](http://Drugfree.org), added:

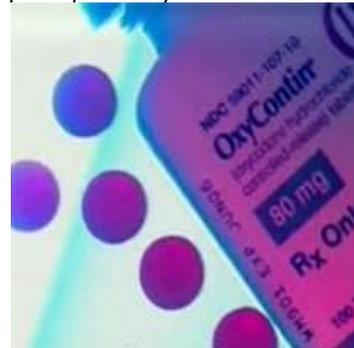
*"This new data is not about blaming parents. Rather, it's an urgent call to action for them to use their immense power to help curb this dangerous behavior. It's about missed opportunities to protect their kids by having direct conversations with them about the health risks of misusing and abusing medicines – and to then moving to safeguard the medicines in their own home. Parental apathy on this issue is contributing to the problem. Yet the same data show year in and year out that kids who learn a lot about the risks of drug use at home are up to half as likely to use as kids who don't get that life-changing gift from their parents."*

Read full report: [Click here.](#)

### How OxyContin's Pain Relief Built 'A World of Hurt'

Prescription painkillers are among the most widely used drugs in America. In the decade since New York Times reporter Barry Meier began investigating their use and abuse, he says he has seen the number of people dying from overdoses quadruple - an increase Meier calls "staggering."

"The current statistic is that about 16,000 people a year die of overdoses involving



prescription narcotics. ... It's a huge problem. The number of people dying from these drugs is second only to the number of people that die in car accidents," he tells Fresh Air's Terry Gross.

Full article: [Click here.](#)

### Anti-Smoking Medication Shows Promise for Treating Alcohol Dependence

A smoking-cessation medication may be a viable option for the treatment of alcohol dependence, according to a study by scientists at the National Institutes of Health. The study found that varenicline (marketed under the name Chantix), approved in 2006 to help people stop smoking, significantly reduced alcohol consumption and craving among people

who are alcohol-dependent. The findings were published online in the Journal of Addiction Medicine.



"This is an encouraging development in our effort to expand and improve treatment options for

people with alcohol dependence," says Kenneth R. Warren, Ph.D., acting director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), part of NIH.

"Current medications for alcohol dependence are effective for some, but not all, patients. New medications are needed to provide effective therapy to a broader spectrum of alcohol dependent individuals."

Full article: [Click here.](#)

## Minnesota Context of Opioid Abuse

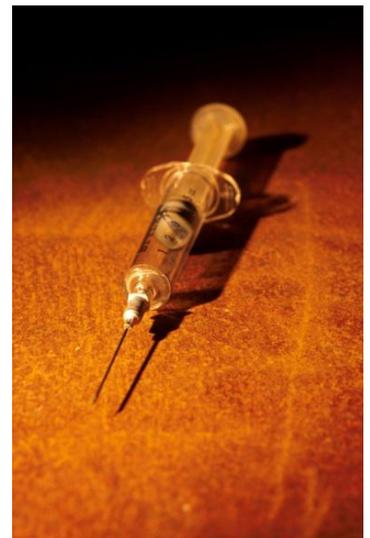
### Health Advisory: New Synthetic Illicit Narcotic Causing Deaths

Acetyl fentanyl is a new and illicit synthetic form of fentanyl and differs from the FDA approved forms of this analgesic. Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing component of the drug problem in Minnesota. In recent years the increase

in drug overdose deaths has been caused by prescription drugs called "opioid analgesics".

Fentanyl is one of the opioid analgesic drugs. Fentanyl *citrate* and transdermal fentanyl forms are FDA approved and are used widely by clinicians for pain control. Available in injectable, oral, and transdermal forms and, under a doctor's care, are medications intended to be used to control pain. Because these drugs can also be used to create euphoria (very intense feelings of well-being, elation, happiness, excitement, and joy), they are sometimes abused. When abused, these prescription medications can cause addiction, drug overdoses, and even death. More drug overdose deaths now involve opioid analgesics than heroin and cocaine.

Emergency room visits and hospitalizations due to fentanyl and some other related drugs have more than tripled since the 1990s; in Minnesota during 2012, there were 683 people treated. FDA approved prescription fentanyl was involved in the death of about 30 Minnesotans in 2012.



## Battle of the Bands 2013



Sponsored by MEADA  
of McLeod County

**NOTE: The 2013 Battle of  
the Bands Registration is  
now OPEN!!!!**

**Completed registration forms must be  
submitted on or before July 20, 2013**

MEADA Coalition of McLeod County is proud to sponsor the Battle of the Bands competition at the McLeod County Fair each year.

### **When:**

THURSDAY, August 15, 2013; 5 pm – 8 pm.

### **Please Note:**

It will be held on a **THURSDAY** this year!

**Performance format:** Each band will play two songs (max total of ten minutes for both songs) in front of a live audience and judges to determine a winning band.

### **SEE Registration requirements online:**

<http://mcleodmeada.org/programs/battle-of-the-bands/>

- Register Online:  
• [Click Here to Register Online.](#)
- Register by Mail:  
• [Click Here to Download the PDF Registration Form.](#)
- Complete the form and remember to include the song lyrics as well as your \$25.00 registration. Mail or drop-off the completed entry to:
- **Corey Roskamp**  
715 Milwaukee Ave SW  
Hutchinson, MN 55350
- Contact Corey with any questions at 320.583.7472 or email [Corey@yfcminnesota.com](mailto:Corey@yfcminnesota.com)