

**Appendix 1 (part 1 of 2):** Study questionnaire concerning use of psychotropic medications and alcohol consumption

## Use of Psychotropic Medications and Alcohol Consumption

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**Your Sex:**  Male       Female       Prefer not to disclose

**Your Age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Currently, how often do you drink alcohol?**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Every day           | <input type="checkbox"/> Once a week                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Once per month           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 to 5 times a week | <input type="checkbox"/> Only on weekends<br>and/or special occasions | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than once per month |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Never                    |

**2. Have you ever needed an intervention for alcohol misuse in the past (e.g. medication, therapy, rehab)?**

- Yes    No

**3. Has alcohol been a factor in any of the past hospitalizations you have had?**

- Yes    No    Not applicable (never been hospitalized)

**4. Have you ever taken prescription medication(s) to treat a psychiatric condition?**

Please check off **ALL** the medications you have ever taken:

- Not applicable. I am currently not, and have not taken any medications to treat a psychiatric condition.  
 Valproic acid or divalproex sodium (Epival®)  
 Lithium  
 Benzodiazepines [such as Ativan® (lorazepam) or Rivotril® (clonazepam)]  
 Other: (please list) \_\_\_\_\_

**5. What was the reaction(s) you experienced when you had an alcoholic drink while on prescription medication(s) for a psychiatric condition?**

Please check ALL that apply.

- Not applicable. I do not drink alcohol while on prescription medications.  
 No reaction  
 Felt more drowsy than usual  
 Was admitted to a hospital  
 Had a worsening of my psychiatric condition  
 Other: (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Before you drink, do you think about the interaction that your psychotropic medications may have with alcohol, or do you just deal with the consequences afterwards?**

- Not applicable. I do not drink alcohol while on prescription medications.  
 Think about the interactions  
 Deal with the consequences after

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**7. Has a healthcare professional ever advised you on taking psychotropic medications and drinking alcohol?**

- Yes → 7a. What advice did you receive?
- Do not drink alcohol with medications
  - You can drink but limit the number of drinks you have
  - You can drink a moderate amount occasionally, but skip medication doses if you know you will drink
  - Never skip your medications whether you drink or not
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 7b. Did you feel the information you received was sufficient?  Yes  No
- 7c. Did you follow the advice that you were given?  Yes  No -> If 'no', why not? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- No, I have never been counselled on this interaction before.

**8. Which healthcare professional do you think would be the best to have a discussion with patients about alcohol use and psychotropic medications? (please choose only ONE)**

- I do not feel it is important for healthcare professionals to discuss alcohol use and medications.
- Nurse
- Psychiatrist
- Pharmacist
- Family doctor
- Addiction counsellor
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**9. Where do you get information about the interaction of medications and alcohol? (choose ALL that apply)**

- Family doctor
- Psychiatrist
- Pharmacist
- Addiction counsellor
- Internet
- Friends/Relatives/Family
- My own past experience with alcohol and medications
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Is there anything else you would like the study co-ordinators to know? Do you have any comments about the survey?

*Thank you for participating in this survey!*