

YOUTH ALCOHOL INTOXICATION HAPPENS TOO OFTEN AND IS A SERIOUS MEDICAL EMERGENCY



ER consultations for 12-24 year olds were analysed in a Canadian city between 2012 and 2017



A hospital visit for an alcohol-related medical emergency (12-24 years old) happened **every 2 days**



Average age was **20 years old** for males and females



75% had consumed **high alcohol content** drinks (liquor or mixed drinks with liquor)

WE DON'T TAKE YOUTH ALCOHOL INTOXICATION SERIOUSLY ENOUGH



25% were admitted with a triage code 1 or 2, meaning their **lives were in danger**



57% had **complications** such as coma, head injuries, or hypothermia



Parents and friends were **contacted only 59%** of the time



Only **40%** were offered a **follow up**, and only **52%** were offered **counselling in the ER**

WHAT CAN WE DO?



Educate young people about the risk of severe alcohol intoxication from consuming higher alcohol content spirits and mixed drinks



Use alcohol-related ER consultations as an opportunity for parents/guardians and health professionals to **intervene with youth**