



CLINICAL FORENSICS ACT

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# Sex, Drugs and Alcohol

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Clinical Forensics ACT

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# Overview

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- What do we know about sex?
  - In combination with alcohol
  - In combination with recreational drugs
- Red flags
- Interventions
  - Behavioural intervention?
- Therapeutic uses of alcohol and sex

# Patients- one step ahead

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- Alcohol is used to facilitate sexual encounters
  - 28.6% use it to facilitate sex
- Illicit drugs are used to facilitate sex
  - 26.2% of cocaine users to prolong, arouse and enhance sex
  - Males using ecstasy to prolong sex
- Using drugs or alcohol under 16
  - Associated with sex especially young women
- Drugs and alcohol and multiple partners

- Bellis MA. Hughes K. Calafat A. Juan M. Ramon A. Rodriguez J A. Mendes F. Schnitzer S. Phillips-Howard P. Sexual uses of alcohol and drugs and the associated health risks: a cross sectional study of young people in nine European cities. BMC Public Health. 8:155, 2008.



# Concurrent partners

- Association of concurrent partners with
  - Alcohol
  - Thinking your partner is not monogamous
  - 24% use condoms with non-steady partners
  - Condom use associated with less use of alcohol

- Senn, T E. Carey, M P. Venable, P A. Coury-Doniger, P. Urban, M. Sexual partner concurrency among STI clinic patients with a steady partner: correlates and associations with condom use. *Sexually Transmitted Infections*. 85(5):343-7, 2009 Sep.
- Richards, J E. Risser, J M. Padgett, P M. Rehman, H U. Wolverton, M L. Arafat, R. Condom use among high-risk heterosexual women with concurrent sexual partnerships, Houston, Texas, USA. *International Journal of STD & AIDS*. 19(11):768-71, 2008 Nov.



# Is your child travelling OS?

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- Backpacker study
  - 73.2% had sex during their stay
    - 68.9% arrived without a partner
    - 39.7% had multiple partners
    - 40.9% used condoms inconsistently
    - 24% unprotected sex with multiple partners
- Alcohol correlates with lack of condom use

- Hughes K. Downing J. Bellis M A. Dillon P. Copeland J. The sexual behaviour of British backpackers in Australia. Sexually Transmitted Infections. 85(6):477-82, 2009 Oct.

# Unwanted Pregnancy

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- Association with alcohol
- Adverse outcomes associated with alcohol
- Not using contraception
  - Association with alcohol



- Standerwick, K. Davies, C. Tucker, L. Sheron, Nick. Binge drinking, sexual behaviour and sexually transmitted infection in the UK. *International Journal of STD & AIDS*. 18(12):810-3, 2007 Dec.
- Gilligan, C. Sanson-Fisher, R. Eades, S. D'Este, C. Kay-Lambkin, F. Scheman, S. Identifying pregnant women at risk of poor birth outcomes.. *Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology*. 29(3):181-7, 2009 Apr.

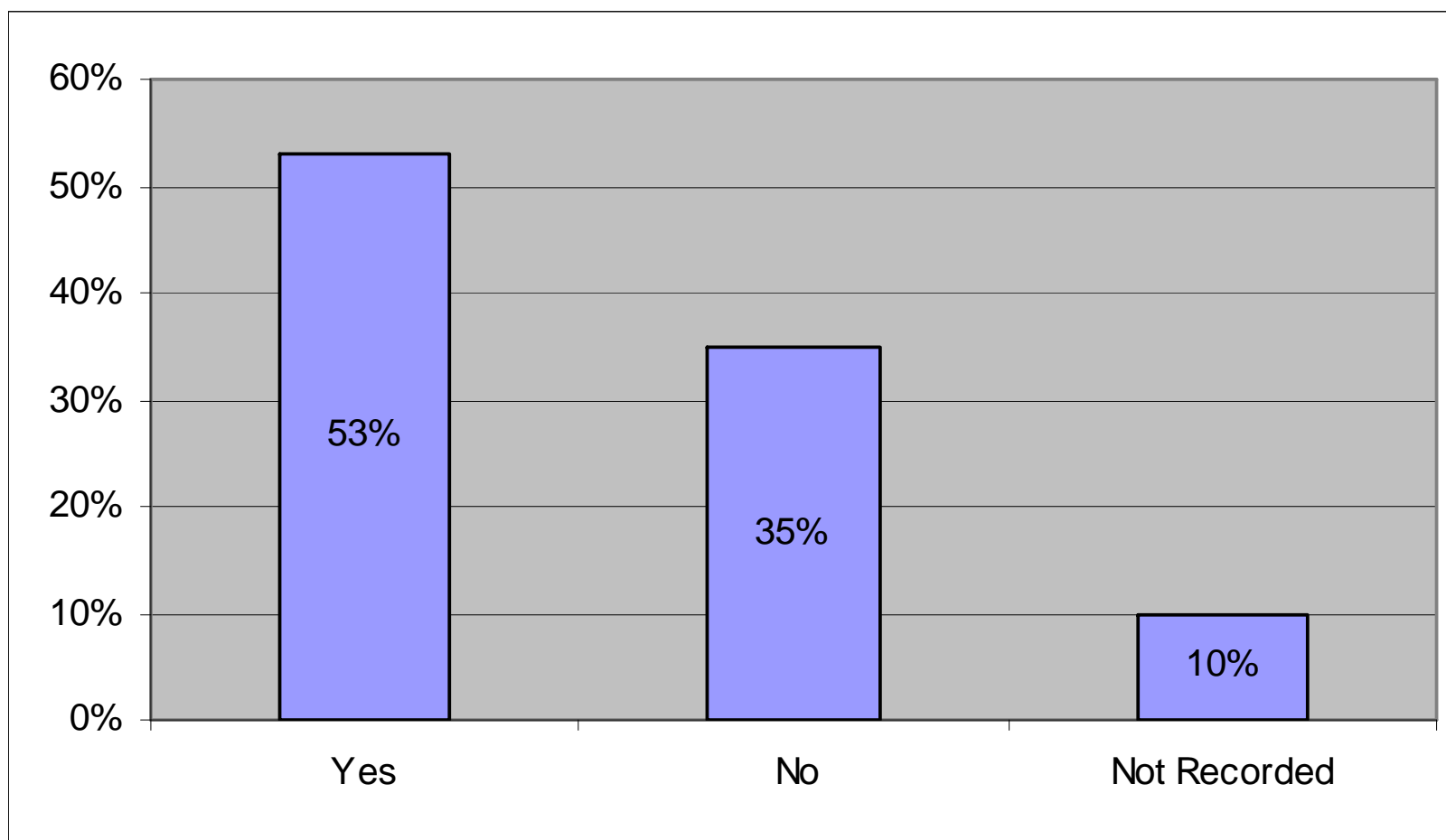
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# Drug/alcohol facilitated sexual assault

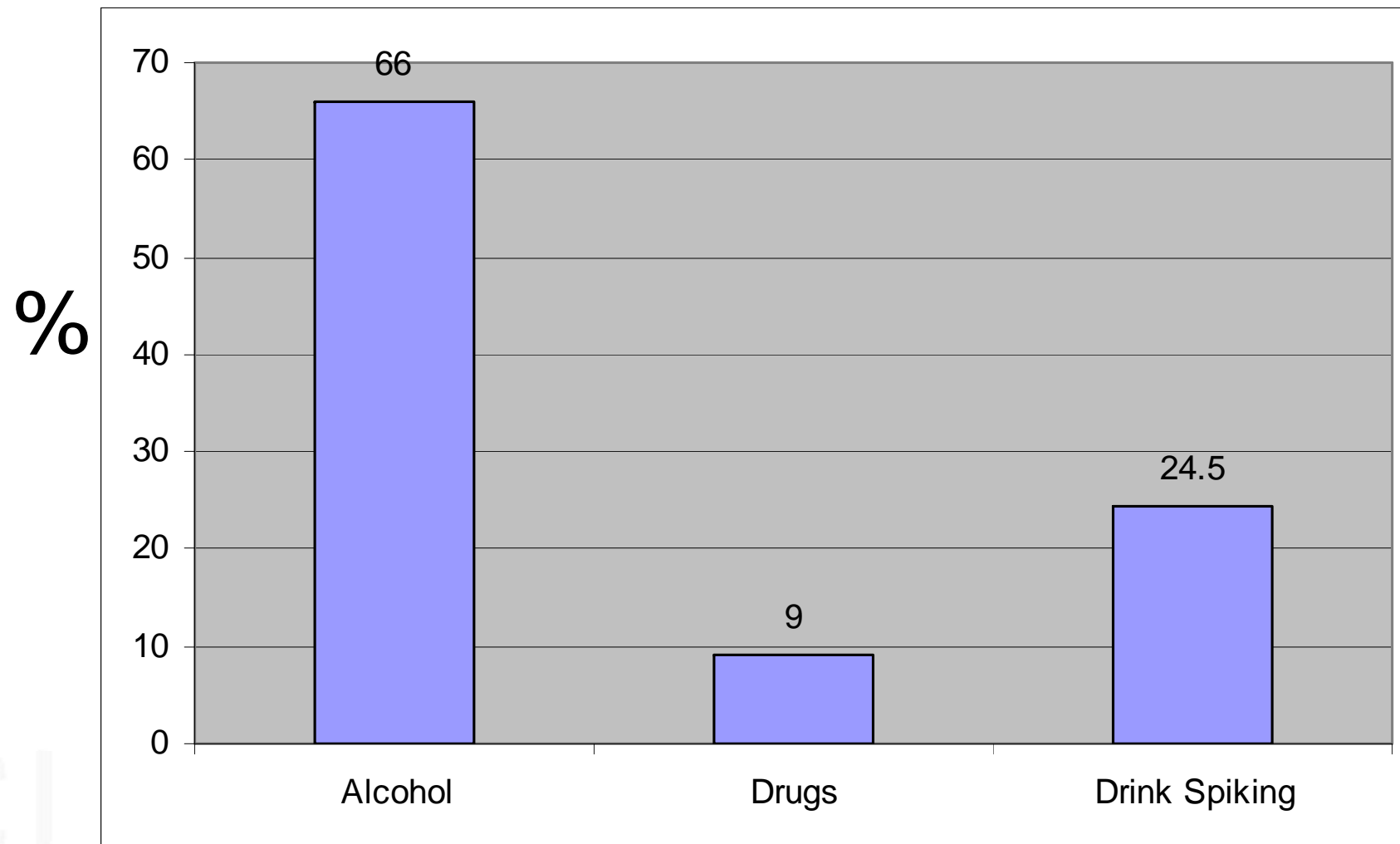


# Alcohol Use by Sexual Assault Patients

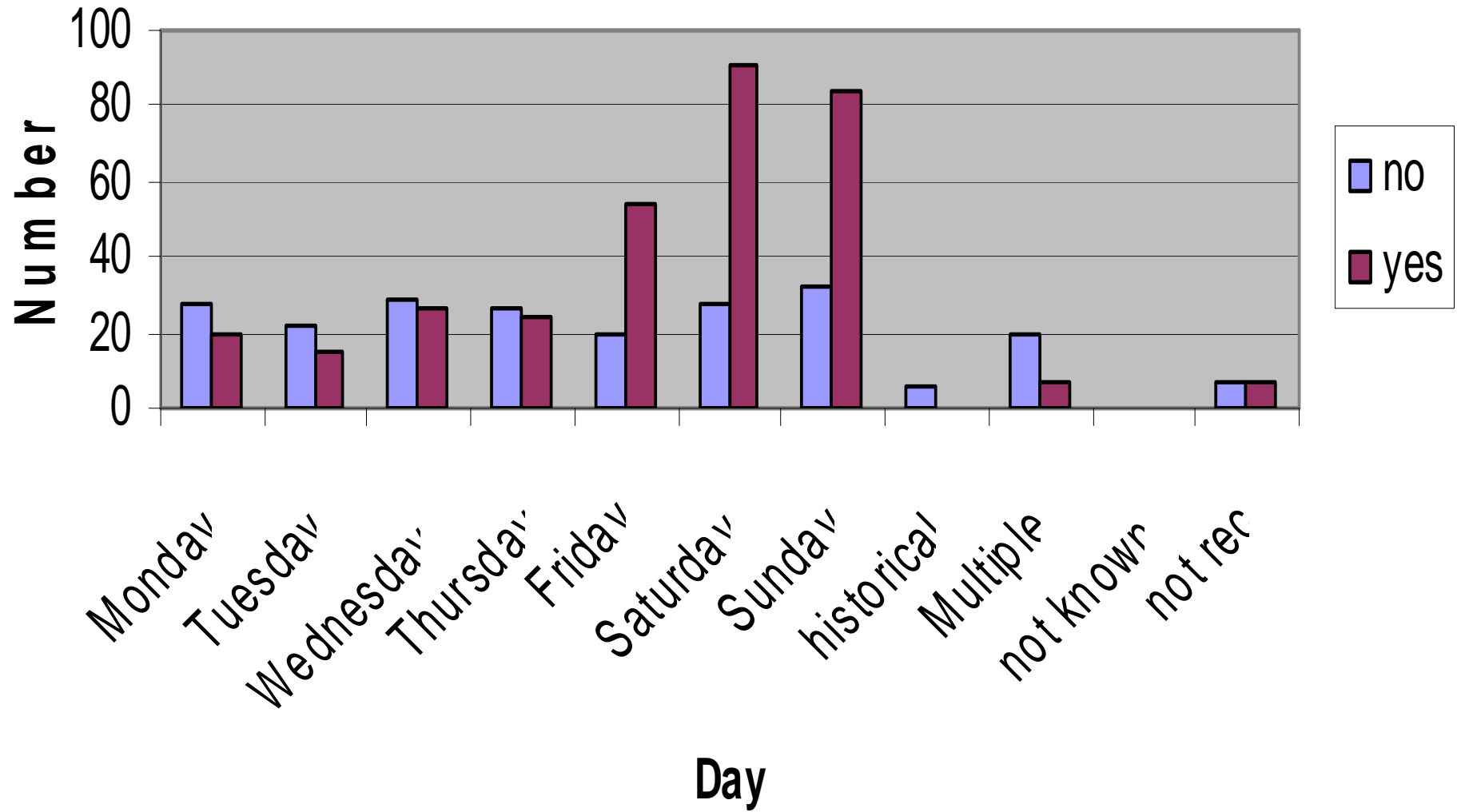
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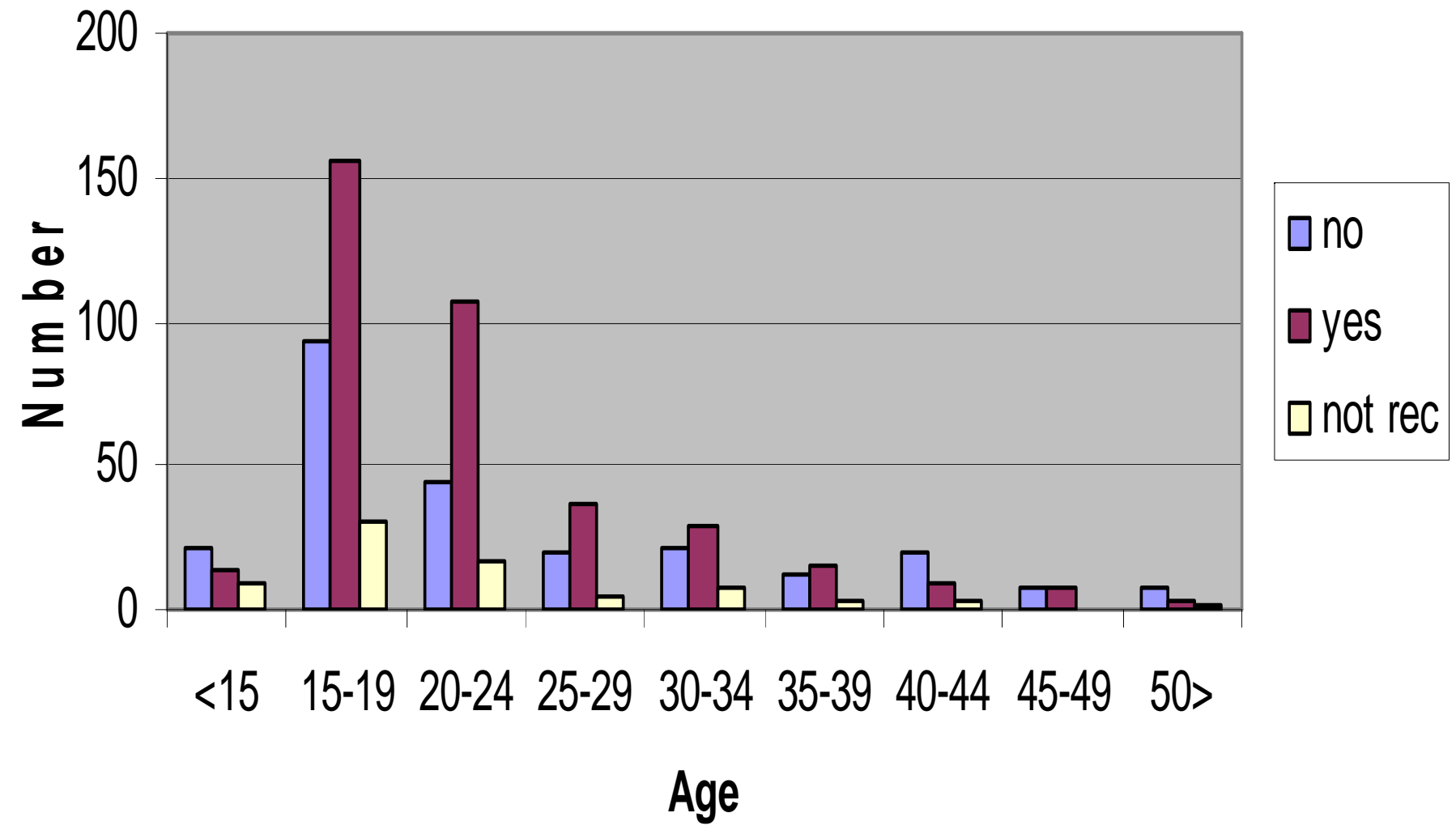
# Alcohol and Drug use SA



# Sexual Assault Day of Week and Alcohol Use



# Alcohol Use by Age Group FAMSAC



# Some ACT data

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- Sexual assault
- Correlation with a person they had just met
  - Just met 2.14 (1.26-3.64)
  - 23-27 year old age 2.26 (0.80-6.37)
  - 00:00-08:00 18.05 (7.47-43.61)
  - 18:00-00:00 5.38 (2.14-13.53)
  - OR univariate analysis

# What does alcohol mix with?

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- Experienced violence
- Sexually transmitted Infections
- Sexual assault
- Coitarche
- Unplanned pregnancy
- Motor vehicle collisions
- Inflicting violence
- Travel
- Concurrent partners



- Theall KP. Scribner R Cohen D. Bluthenthal RN. Schonlau M. Lynch Sara. Farley T A. The neighborhood alcohol environment and alcohol-related morbidity. *Alcohol & Alcoholism*. 44(5):491-9, 2009 Sep-Oct.



# Venturing to the other side

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- Alcohol and perpetrators
  - Risky sexual behaviour
    - Perpetrating SA
    - Heavy drinkers
  - Violence
- Alcoholic men are more likely to have affairs
  - 14% vs 4%
  - And they don't tell



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# The scene is set



# So what is the alcohol doing?

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- Decreased awareness and discomfort with risk cues
- Established relationships decreased discomfort feelings
- Stopping women reporting
- Late presentations of SA
- Sexual assault in a public place
- Self medication as a post traumatic therapy

- Davis KC. Stoner SA. Norris J. George WH. Masters NT. Women's awareness of and discomfort with sexual assault cues: effects of alcohol consumption and relationship type. *Violence Against Women*. 15(9):1106-25, 2009 Sep.
- Deliramich AN. GrayMJ. Changes in women's sexual behavior following sexual assault. *Behavior Modification*. 32(5):611-21, 2008 Sep.

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# What is the evidence for intervention?

## What should we be doing?



# It is really easy to screen for STIs

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# Screening for the job lot

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- Sex, drugs and alcohol as a package
- ‘Have you ever had sex that you didn’t want?’
- When do you drink alcohol
  - How much
- When do you use drugs
  - What and how

# Forensic evidence

## How long have we got?

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- Drugs
  - Up to 72 hours
  - Hair analysis
- Vaginal contact
  - Up to 120 hours
- Oral contact
  - Up to 48 hours
- Anal contact
  - Up to 24 hours
- Injuries

**The sooner the better**

# What can we do?

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- Behavioural interventions?
  - Give information
  - Brief motivational intervention
  - Brief motivational intervention and STI test
- Smoking and alcohol not equal

- Brems C. Dewane SL. Johnson ME. Eldridge GD. Brief motivational interventions for HIV/STI risk reduction among individuals receiving alcohol detoxification. *AIDS Education & Prevention*. 21(5):397-414, 2009 Oct.
- LaBrie, JW. Pedersen ER. Thompson A D. Earleywine M. A brief decisional balance intervention increases motivation and behavior regarding condom use in high-risk heterosexual college men. *Archives of Sexual Behavior*. 37(2):330-9, 2008 Apr.
- McCambridge J. Jenkins R J. Do brief interventions which target alcohol consumption also reduce cigarette smoking? Systematic review and meta-analysis. *Drug & Alcohol Dependence*. 96(3):263-70, 2008 Aug 1.

# Worse or better with time?



- Hall J. Goodall E A. Moore T. Alleged drug facilitated sexual assault (DFSA) in Northern Ireland from 1999 to 2005. A study of blood alcohol levels. *Journal of Forensic & Legal Medicine*. 15(8):497-504, 2008 Nov.

# A word of caution

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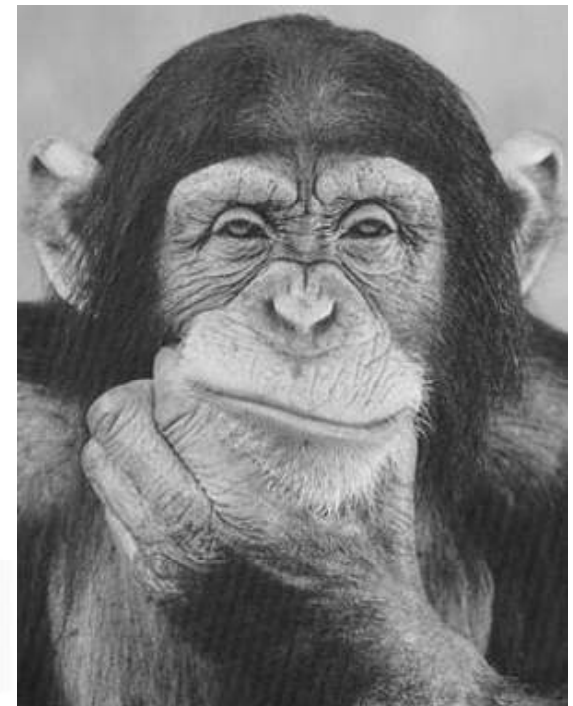
- Alcohol to self medicate
- Alcohol withdrawal
  - I can stop anytime
  - I can do this myself at home
- Think thiamine
- Care not to blame
- Increase in vulnerability



# Conclusions

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- No big surprises sex and alcohol don't mix
- Screening
  - A job lot
  - STI screening
- Interventions individual
- Sexual assault time frames
- Sexual health and alcohol





# Sex Worker Awareness Training

Lexxie Jury

Shelle Mulvay

Dr Vanita Parekh