Alcohol and Pancreas

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Abstract

This ‘Pancreatology and the Web’ follows the theme of the current special issue of Pancreatology on alcohol and the pancreas. Some websites are highlighted which address topics from basic information on alcohol-induced pancreatitis to alcohol-research-related funding opportunities to policies that must be considered when in the field of alcohol-related pancreas research.

Top5Plus5’s:

http://www.top5plus5.com/Alcoholic%20Pancreatitis.html

This website provides basic information about alcohol-induced pancreatitis. It discusses the aspects of a healthy pancreas and indicates the statistics, symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of alcohol-related pancreatic damage. In addition, factors that influence susceptibility are outlined. This site provides useful information for the patient as well, including chat rooms and information on procedures, dealing emotionally with the disease, diet and well-being, and even some shared artistic representations of pancreatitis or the emotions of a patient suffering from pancreatitis.

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism:

http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/

This website is truly a central source of information for any alcohol-related researcher. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) website contains all the appropriate links one would desire or need in alcohol-related research. This includes publications ranging from alcohol-related research to policies to educational brochures to epidemiological data. In addition, there is information about both intramural and extramural funded research, and of course, information on current extramural requests for applications for funding. News and events, such as courses and meetings, are
highlighted along with information on clinical trials related to alcohol research. Resources are provided, such as statistical databases, as well as links to NIAAA-sponsored sites. Although this website contains information for all forms of alcohol-related research, the pancreas researcher in alcohol will find the necessary tools within this site.

**Alcohol Policy Information System: http://alcoholpolicy.niaaa.nih.gov/**

The Alcohol Policy Information System (APIS), developed under contract by NIAAA, is an online resource dedicated to provide detailed information on a wide variety of alcohol-related policies in the USA, both state and federal. The site features compilations and analyses of alcohol-related statutes and regulations. Designed primarily as a tool for researchers, APIS simplifies the process of ascertaining the state of the law for studies on the effects and effectiveness of alcohol-related policies.

I hope that this entire special topic issue of *Pancreatology* in the field of alcohol serves as an extremely useful resource to both the novice and the seasoned alcohol-related investigator alike. And hopefully, these websites add value to our exploration of this topic.

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