

# EFFECTS OF MODERATE BEER CONSUMPTION ON HEALTH AND DISEASE:

A REPORT FROM A CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

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and Maria Benedetta Donati*

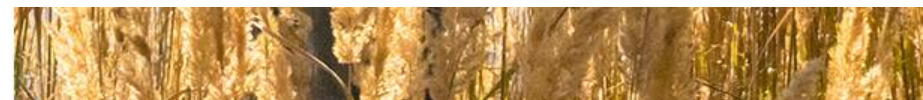
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*Beer and Health*

THE 8<sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN

BEER AND HEALTH SYMPOSIUM



# DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

***IN RELATION TO THE PRESENT MEETING  
I HAVE NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST,***

***EXCEPT THAT I LIKE TO DRINK IN MODERATION  
WINE REGULARLY  
BEER FREQUENTLY  
DURING MAIN MEALS  
SPIRITS SELDOM***



# Binge Drinking

## A Serious, Under-Recognized Problem among Women and Girls

**1 in 8**  
Nearly 14 million U.S. women binge drink about 3 times a month.

**1 in 5**  
1 in 3 high school girls binge drink.

**6**  
Women average 6 drinks per binge.

Source: CDC Vital Signs, January 2011



# Do I Need Alcohol For My Heart Health?



# ARE YOU DRINKING TOO MUCH?



A Series On Heart Health & Alcohol with Absolute Advocacy



# Are You a Moderate Drinker?

Minimize the health risks alcohol can cause. Follow the USDA guidelines for moderate drinking:



**WOMEN**  
Up to 1 drink per day



**MEN**  
Up to 2 drinks per day



# Alcohol & Health



Beer and Health

HOW SOLID IS TODAY  
THE SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE  
THAT DRINKING  
BEER, WINE OR SPIRIT (ALCOHOL)  
IS BENEFICIAL AGAINST  
CARDIOVASCULAR RISK  
AND ALL-CAUSE MORTALITY ?







NAPOLI - SALERNO

NAPOLI - SALERNO



NAPOLI

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# THE REASONS FOR A CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

## OPEN QUESTIONS

1. **Multiple sometimes contrasting effects** of alcoholic beverages consumption on human health.
2. While the **harms** associated with **high intake of alcohol** are well known, the effects of moderate doses are more complex to define.
3. Possible **different effects of diverse alcoholic beverages** (wine, beer, spirits), in relation to their heterogeneous content of alcohol and non-alcoholic components.

## **Wine, Beer, and Spirits** **Are They Really Horses of a Different Color?**

Eric B. Rimm, ScD; Meir J. Stampfer, MD, DrPH



# THE REASONS FOR A CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

## OPEN QUESTIONS

4. The consumption of **alcohol in moderation** is associated with a **reduced risk** of cardiovascular and metabolic diseases, as well as a **reduction** in total **mortality**.
5. Does a moderate consumption of **beer** share effects comparable to total alcohol?





# A CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

For all these reasons, it seemed appropriate to conduct a large **evidence-based review** on the effects of **the consumption of moderate amounts of beer on human health and disease.**

*In several cases, the specific effects of beer consumption could not be separated from that of wine or other alcoholic beverages: in that case the effects of alcohol were reported and discussed.*



# A CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

An **international panel** of experts accepted to review the literature and evaluate whether a full **consensus document** could be prepared.

Panelists contributed to this consensus on their own responsibility, not reflecting the opinion nor following the guidelines of any scientific society or association.

To start, each panelist prepared a first draft manuscript on a specific aspect of the review's topic.

All manuscripts were then exchanged and discussed among all panelists by mail/telephone and finally submitted to two external (at that time) anonymous reviewers (one in Europe and the other one in USA).

On the basis of the reviewers' comments, a pre-final text was prepared.



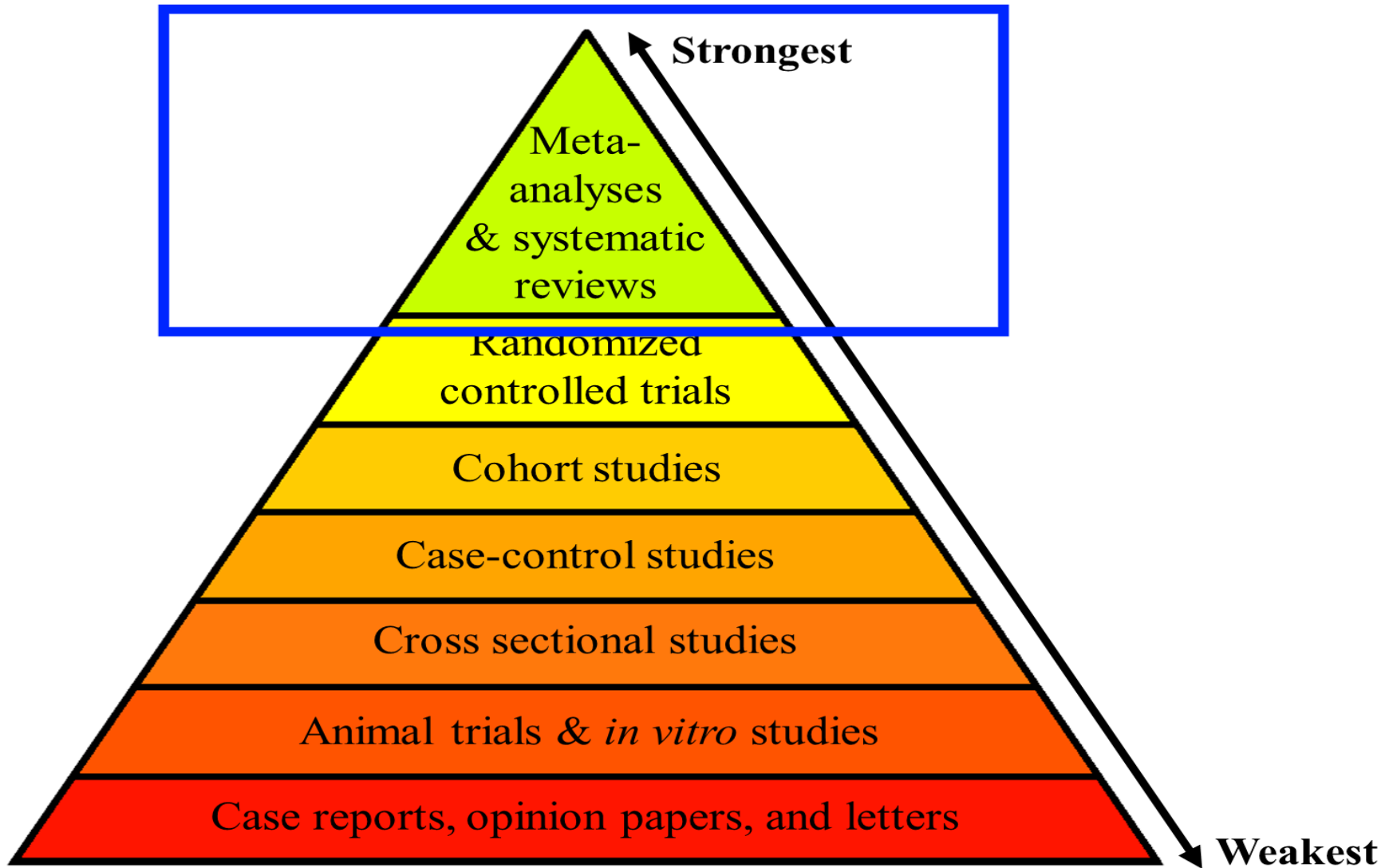
**Renato Guttuso**

La Vucciria, 1974.  
Olio su tela, 300x300.

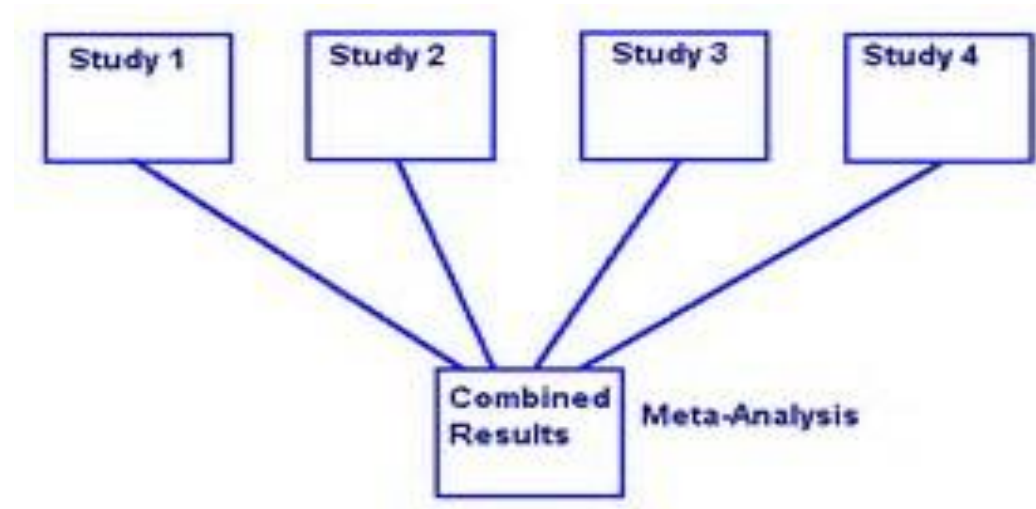
Universita' degli Studi  
Palermo



# Hierarchy of Scientific Evidence



thelogicofscience.com





# A one-day meeting of the International Panel

Held in **Rome, October 2015**, during which the full text was read, commented and, when agreed upon by the Panel, modified.

The consensus document was finalized few days later and submitted again to both external reviewers.

The Panel unanimously approved the very final version and decided to submit it for publication to **Nutrition, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases**, a peer reviewed international journal specialized in nutrition and chronic diseases.

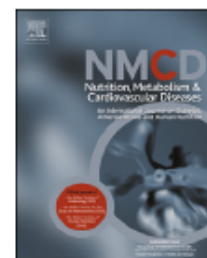




Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

# Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Diseases

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/nmcd](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/nmcd)



## REVIEW

# Effects of moderate beer consumption on health and disease: A consensus document



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Circa 22 risultati (0,30 secondi)

**Una birra al giorno leva il cardiologo di turno (più o meno)**

International Business Times Italia - 11 mag 2016

"Chi beve birra campa 100 anni", diceva una vecchia pubblicità. ... consenso pubblicato su **Nutrition, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases**.

Una birra al giorno toglie il medico di turno

Associazione Altrimondi - 13 mag 2016

La birra fa bene, lo studio del Neuromed finisce sul Times di Londra

L'Eco dell'Alto Molise e Alto Vastese - 11 mag 2016

Una birretta al giorno fa bene al cuore

Ok Salute e Benessere - 11 mag 2016

**Approfondisci** (Altri 8 articoli)**Cuore 'a tutta birra', una pinta al giorno protegge dalle malattie ...**

Adnkronos - 11 mag 2016

Buone notizie per gli amanti del luppolo: una pinta di birra al giorno può ... pubblicato in **'Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Disease'** ...**Una birra al giorno toglie il cardiologo di turno.**

Milano Sanita - 17 mag 2016

Può sembrare uno scherzo ma per il **Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Diseases** non lo è. Sulla rivista è stato pubblicato un articolo che ...**Birra: fa bene alla salute? Sorprendenti risposte svelate da una ...**

Informare per resistere - 12 mag 2016

Se la birra fa parte della dieta dell'uomo da 7mila anni, è probabile che ... scientifica **Nutrition, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases** da un ...**Una pinta al giorno leva il cardiologo di turno**

MondoBenessereBlog (Blog) - 12 mag 2016

una pinta di birra al giorno può contribuire alla salute del cuore. ... in uno studio pubblicato in **'Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Disease'** ...**Ricerca, bere birra con moderazione fa bene alla salute**

L'Eco dell'Alto Molise e Alto Vastese - 29 apr 2016

Oggi sembra essere giunto anche il momento della birra. Sulla rivista scientifica **Nutrition, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases** è stato ...**La birra fa bene al cuore e al cervello**

Italiasalute.it - 04 mag 2016

La birra svela inaspettate proprietà protettive nei confronti di cuore e cervello. ... Sulla rivista scientifica **Nutrition, Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases** è ...



Lifestyle > Health & Families > Health News

## Pint of beer a day could protect you from heart attacks, scientists say

Researchers found drinking around 1.4 pints of beer a day could reduce the risk of heart diseases by around 25 per cent

Samuel Osborne | @SamuelOsborne93 | Wednesday 11 May 2018 | 12:07 pm



Most women could drink a small can of beer a day and most men two, without any difference to their chances of getting most cancers, dementia or other common diseases, researchers concluded Johannes Simon/Getty Images

A beer (or two) a day could protect from heart attacks, scientists suggest.

Italian researchers found drinking around 1.4 pints of beer a day could reduce the risk of heart diseases by around 25 per cent.

A metareview of 150 studies conducted by the Mediterranean Neurological Institute, Pozzilli, suggested up to two small 330ml cans of beer a day is unlikely to damage a person's health.

Times reports.

MailOnline

## A beer a day keeps a heart attack at bay: Even one can reduces risk of disease by a quarter

- Drinking 1.4 pints a day or two 330ml cans reduces risk of heart problems
- Did not increase risk of dementia or cancers, review of 150 studies found
- Alcohol and other chemicals in the drink protects heart and blood vessels
- But researchers warned binge drinking is known to harm our health

By MADLEN DAVIES FOR MAILONLINE

PUBLISHED: 09:11 GMT, 11 May 2018 | UPDATED: 19:42 GMT, 11 May 2018

# THE TIMES

## A beer each day could protect the heart

Oliver Moody Science Correspondent

"Doth it not show vilely in me," frets Prince Hal in Shakespeare's *Henry IV Part 2*, "to desire small beer?"

He can rest easy. Italian scientists have found that a few small beers are fine to desire if you want to curb your risk of cardiovascular disease.

Dame Sally Davies, the chief medical officer, issued new guidelines in January that made Britain one of the most

cautious countries in the world, recommending that men and women keep their consumption to 14 units a week.

However, a comprehensive review taking in more than 150 studies has concluded that drinking up to two 330ml cans (1.4 pints) of beer a day — equivalent to 21 units a week — is not only unlikely to damage your health, but will reduce your risk of heart and circulation diseases by about a quarter. Epidemiologists led by the Mediterranean

Neurological Institute in Pozzilli concluded that both the alcohol and some of the other chemicals in beer had a range of beneficial effects.

In their report published in the journal *Nutrition, Metabolism & Cardiovascular Diseases*, they said that most women could drink a small can of beer a day, and most men two, without any obvious changes to their odds of getting dementia, most cancers, or other common diseases.

## NEWS

NEWS OPINION BUSINESS REVIEW NATIONAL AFFAIRS SPORT LIFE TECH ARTS TR

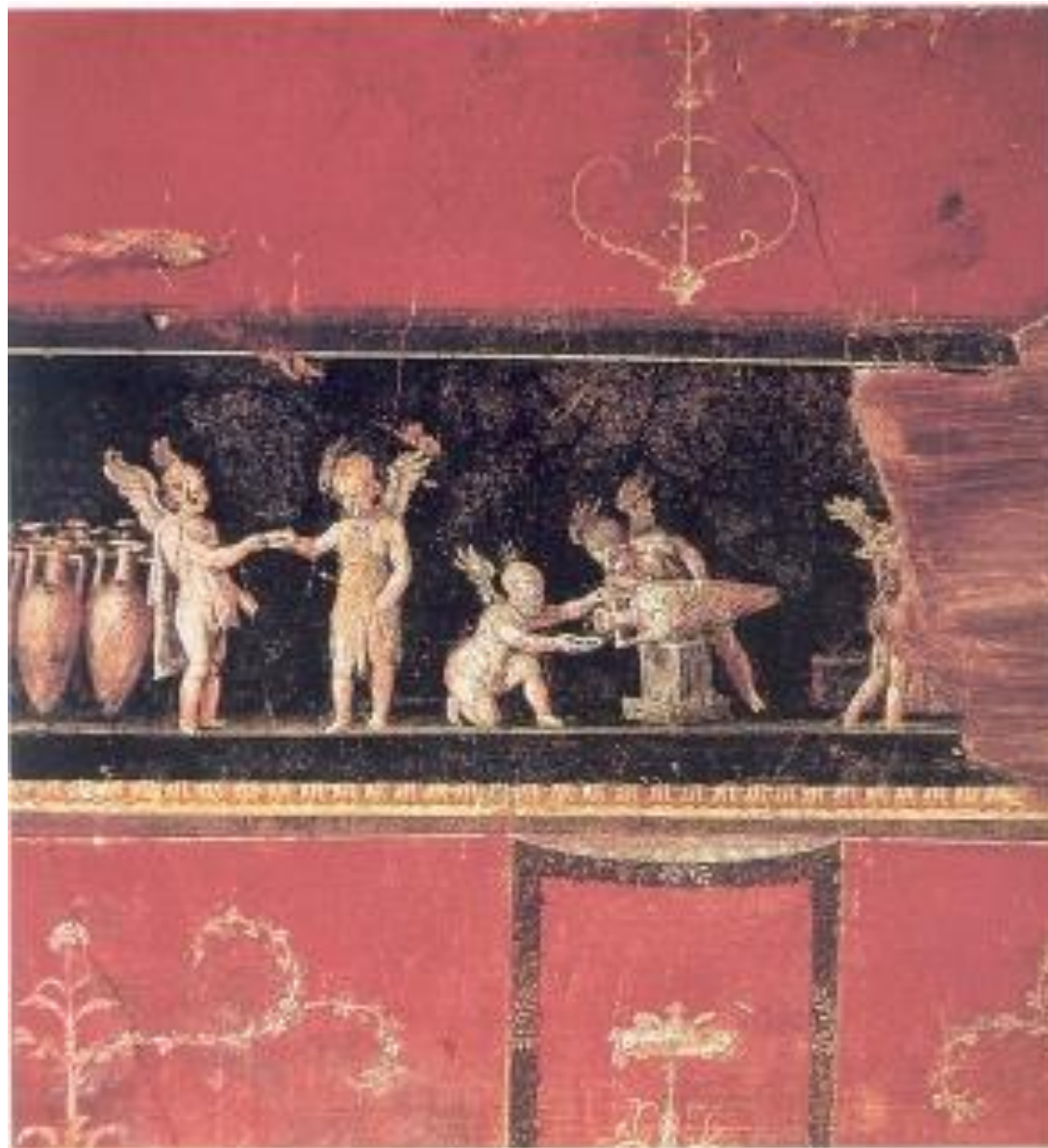
## Beer drinking helps curb heart disease, say scientists

OLIVER MOODY  
THE TIMES | MAY 12, 2018 12:00AM



Drinking up to two small cans of beer a day is likely to reduce your risk of heart and circulation, an Italian study says.

Finally some good news for the drinkers of the world: a few small beers a day can reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease, according to Italian scientists.





ARE THE BENEFICIAL  
EFFECTS OF ALCOHOLIC  
BEVERAGES  
REALLY DUE TO  
THESE BEVERAGES  
OR TO OTHER FACTORS  
OR CIRCUMSTANCES?





Fotoğraf: George Steinmetz

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Dev Develer

National Geographic Türkiye, Şubat 2005



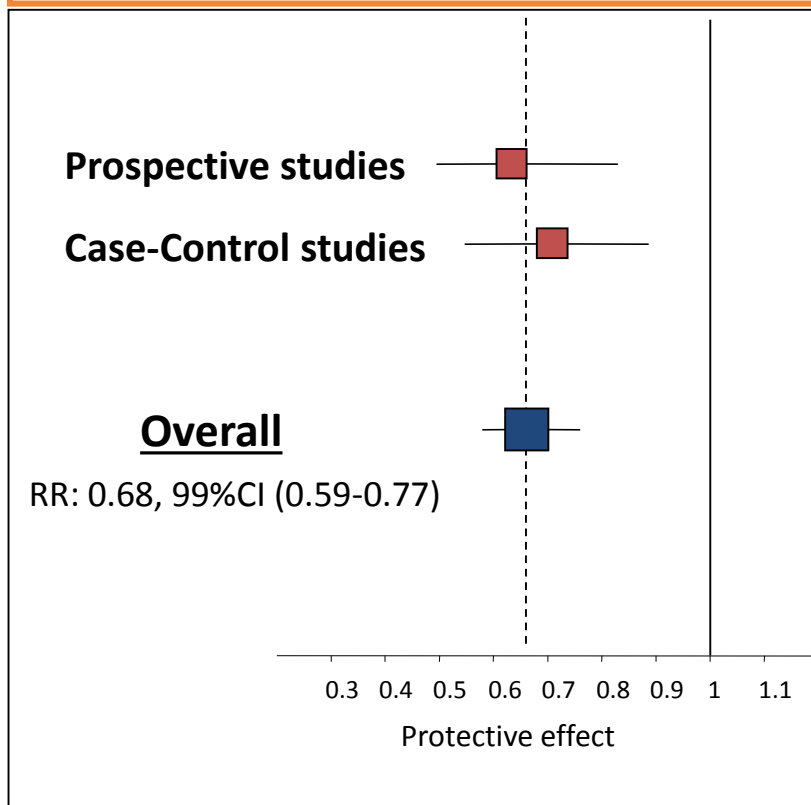
*Beer and Health*

# BEER OR WINE AND VASCULAR RISK

**wine** intake vs. **no wine** intake

13 studies reporting data for wine

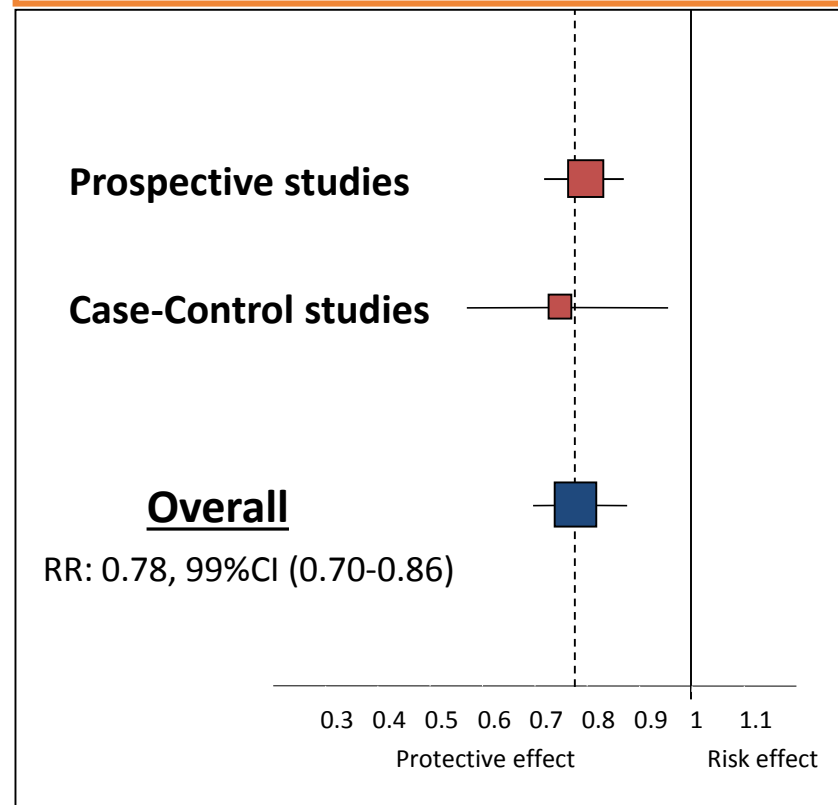
209,418 subjects



**beer** intake vs. **no beer** intake

15 studies reporting data for beer

208,036 subjects



# CONFOUNDING FACTORS

A PROBLEM OF ANY  
EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY

*e.g., SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS,  
SMOKING, UNDER-REPORTING*



# Subgroup analysis

SUBGROUP	WINE			BEER		
	N	RR	99%CI	N	RR	99%CI
<b>Adjustment</b> for different types of alcoholic beverages						
Not Adjusted	3	<b>0.53</b>	0.39-0.73	4	0.79	0.62-1.01
Adjusted	10	<b>0.75</b>	0.61-0.93	11	<b>0.77</b>	0.65-0.92
<b>Adjustment</b> for indicators of social class level						
Not Adjusted	3	0.78	0.56-1.08	3	0.68	0.41-1.14
Adjusted	10	<b>0.64</b>	0.52-0.79	12	<b>0.78</b>	0.68-0.91



# THE DEFINITION OF REFERENCE GROUP

## Subgroup analysis

SUBGROUP	WINE			BEER		
	N	RR	99%CI	N	RR	99%CI
No light or occasional drinkers in the reference group	10	0.73	0.59-0.91	11	0.80	0.66-0.97
No ex-drinkers in the reference group	5	0.61	0.47-0.79	5	0.77	0.63-0.94
With the same reference group both for wine and beer	9	0.62	0.50-0.77	9	0.72	0.59-0.88



HOW MUCH  
WINE OR BEER  
SHOULD WE DRINK  
TO GET  
CARDIOVASCULAR  
BENEFITS?



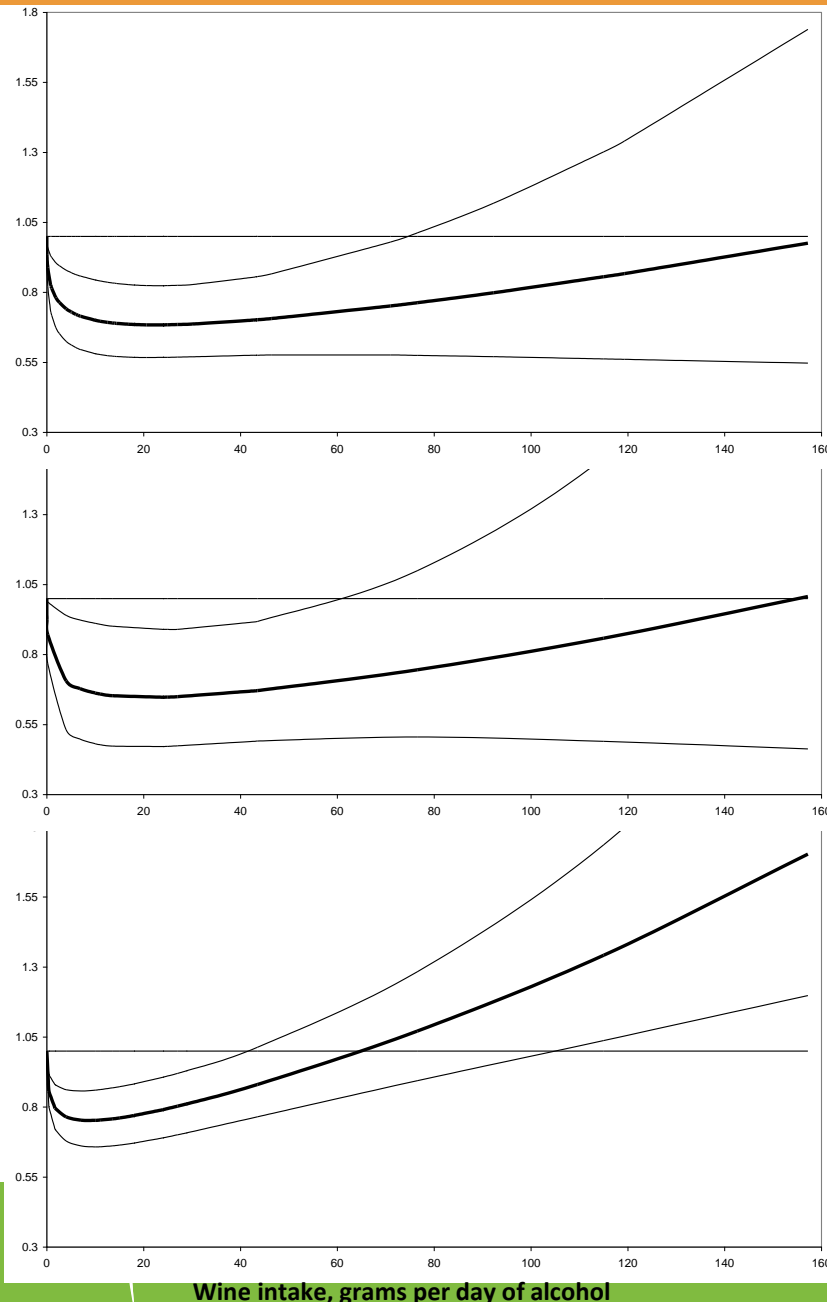
# Wine consumption and ...

## Fatal and not fatal CV events:

14 Studies

9 prospective studies involving 247,141 subjects

5 case-control studies 2,621 case vs 5,086 controls



## CV mortality:

5 Studies

5 prospective studies involving 71,699 subjects

## Total mortality:

5 Studies

5 prospective studies involving 56,696 subjects

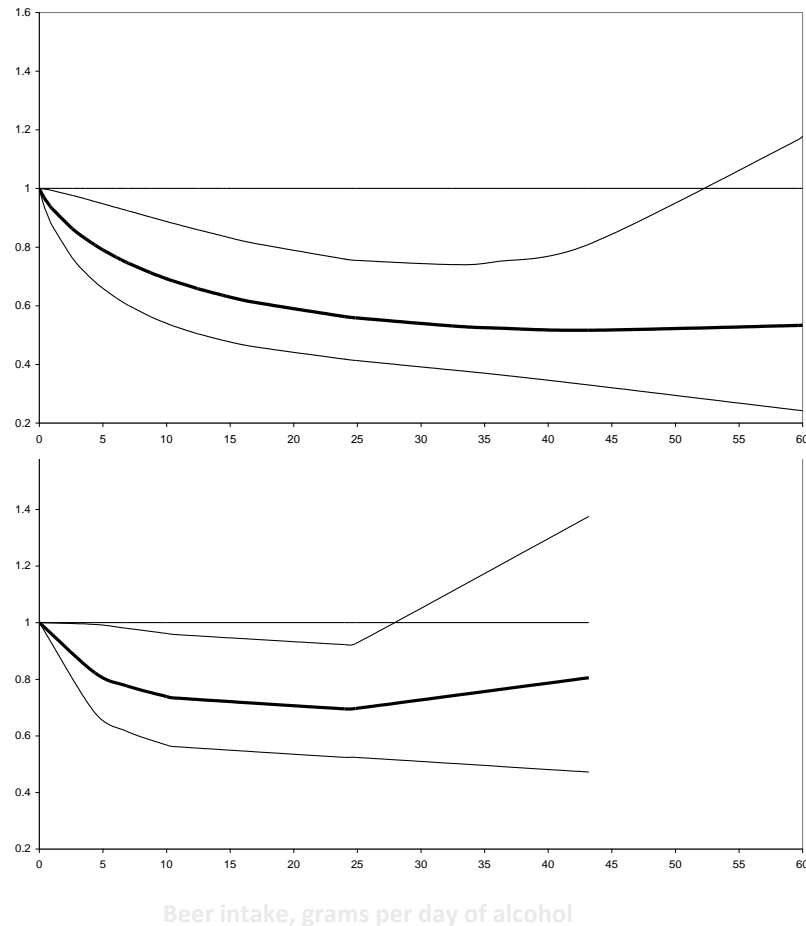
Costanzo et al, Eur J Epidemiol 2011

# Beer consumption and...

## Fatal and not fatal CV events:

12 Studies

7 prospective studies involving 209,063 subjects  
5 case-control studies 2,525 case vs 4,401 controls



## CV Mortality:

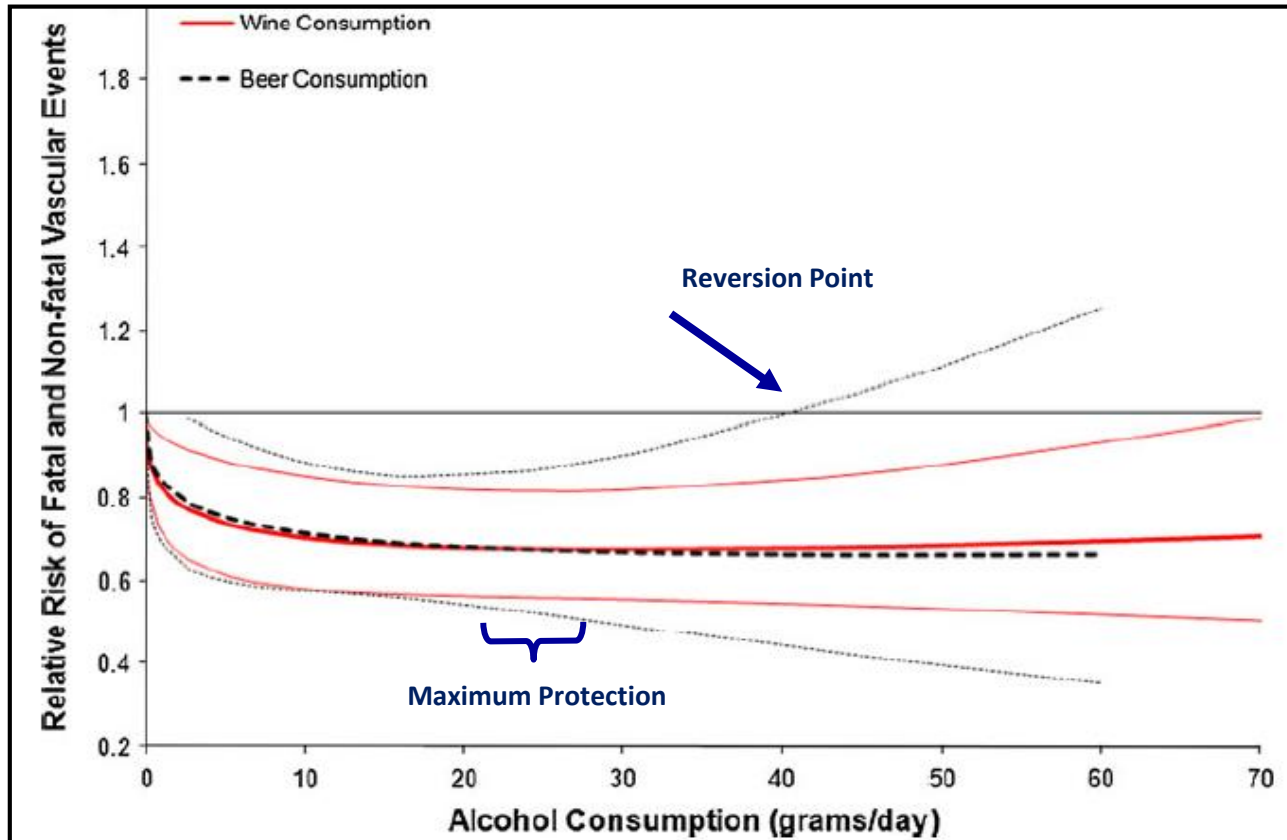
3 Studies

3 prospective studies involving 33,601 subjects





# BEER AND WINE CONSUMPTION IN RELATION TO **VASCULAR RISK**



**Twelve studies** (8 prospective studies: 224,219 individuals (4,823 events); 4 case-control studies: 1,762 cases/3,099 controls) reported separate data both on **wine and beer consumption** in relationship with **vascular risk**.

**The two curves were closely overlapping**, especially at light-moderate alcohol consumption and the **maximal protection** by either beverage was 33% at 25 g/day.



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# Association between clinically recorded alcohol consumption and initial presentation of 12 cardiovascular diseases: population based cohort study using linked health records

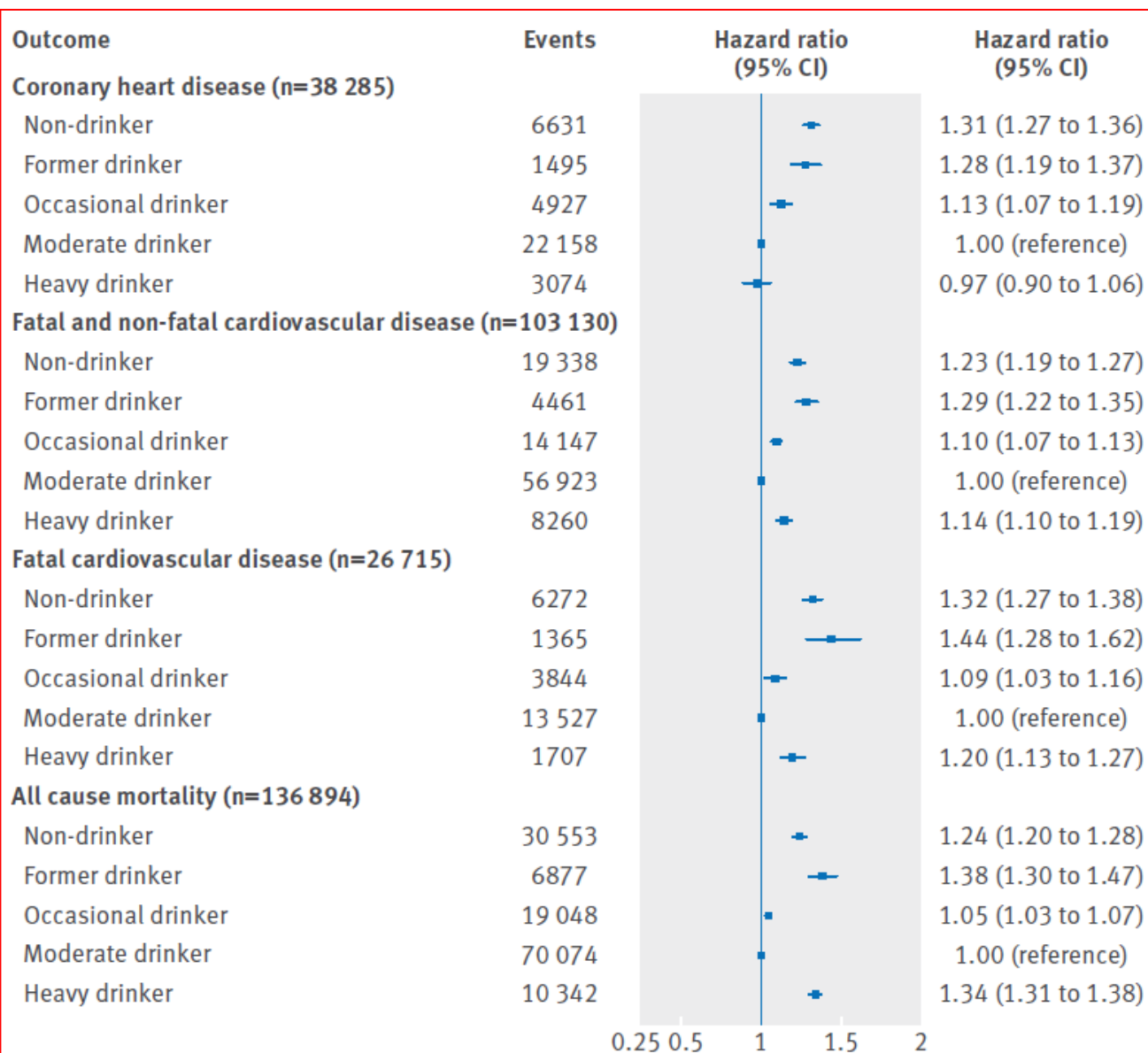
Steven Bell,<sup>1,2</sup> Marina Daskalopoulou,<sup>3</sup> Eleni Rapsomaniki,<sup>4</sup> Julie George,<sup>4</sup> Annie Britton,<sup>2</sup> Martin Bobak,<sup>2</sup> Juan P Casas,<sup>4</sup> Caroline E Dale,<sup>4</sup> Spiros Denaxas,<sup>4</sup> Anoop D Shah,<sup>4</sup> Harry Hemingway<sup>4</sup>

March 23, 2017 [BMJ 2017;356:j909](#)

[thebmj](#) | [BMJ 2017;356:j909](#) | doi: [10.1136/bmj.j909](#)

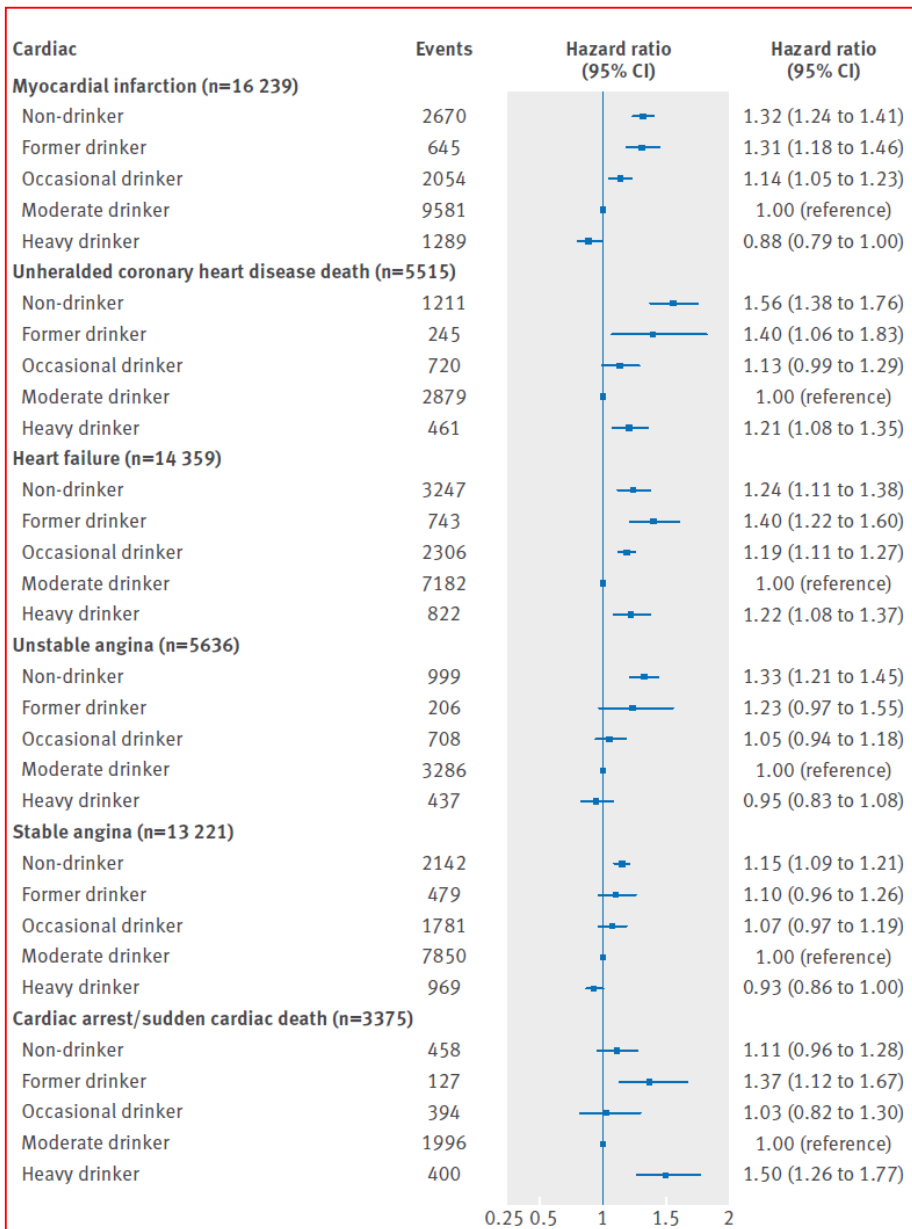


Beer and Health

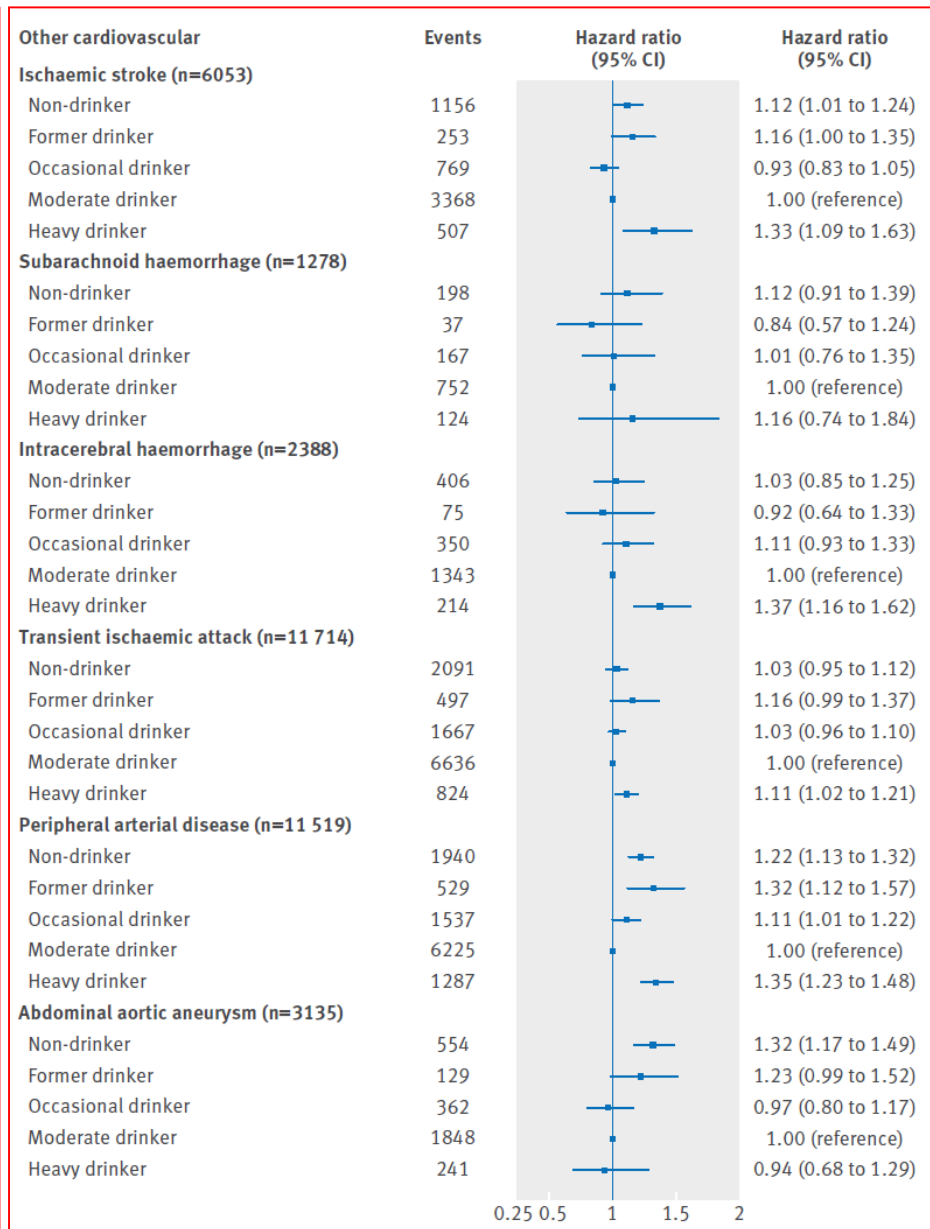


**Fig 2 | Multivariable adjusted hazard ratios for aggregated cardiovascular endpoints for clinically recorded non-drinkers and former, occasional, and heavy drinkers compared with moderate drinkers in cohort of 1.93 million adults adjusted for age (and age<sup>2</sup>), sex, socioeconomic deprivation, and smoking status**





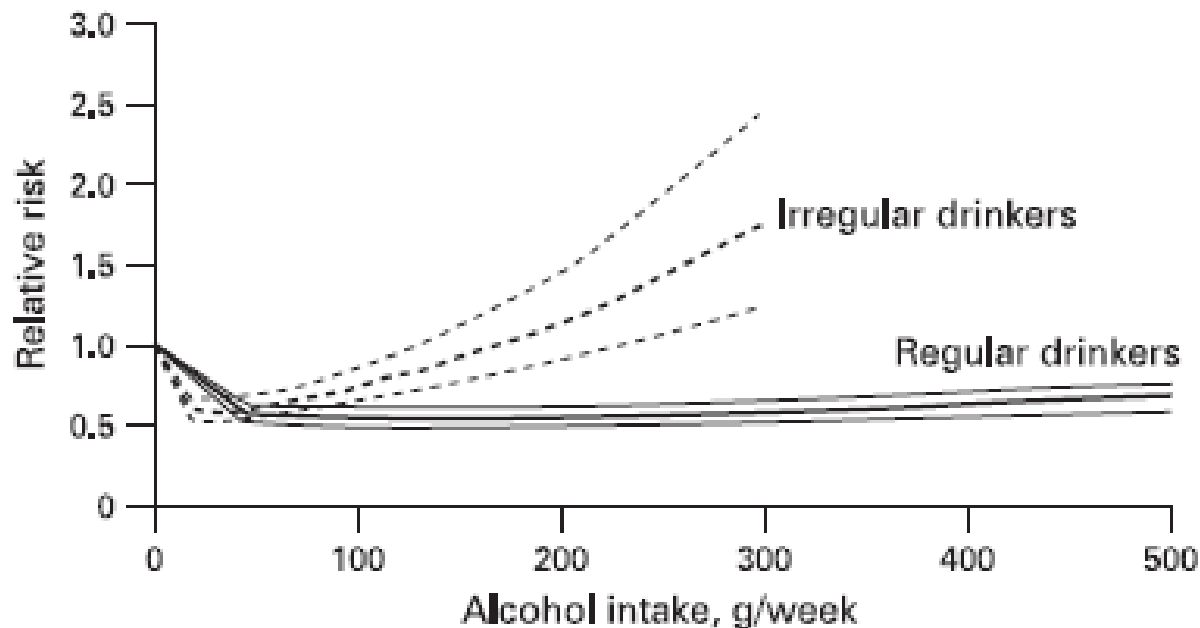
**Fig 3 | Multivariable adjusted hazard ratios for cardiac cardiovascular diseases for clinically recorded non-drinkers and former, occasional, and heavy drinkers compared with moderate drinkers in cohort of 1.93 million adults adjusted for age (and age<sup>2</sup>), sex, socioeconomic deprivation, and smoking status**



**Fig 4 | Multivariable adjusted hazard ratios for non-cardiac cardiovascular diseases for clinically recorded non-drinkers and former, occasional, and heavy drinkers compared with moderate drinkers in cohort of 1.93 million adults adjusted for age (and age<sup>2</sup>), sex, socioeconomic deprivation, and smoking status**

# Does drinking pattern modify the effect of alcohol on the risk of coronary heart disease? Evidence from a meta-analysis

V Bagnardi,<sup>1,2</sup> W Zatonski,<sup>3</sup> L Scotti,<sup>1,4</sup> C La Vecchia,<sup>4,5</sup> G Corrao<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 2** Meta-regression of dose-response relation between weekly alcohol intake and relative risk (and the corresponding 95% confidence bands) of coronary heart disease in regular and irregular drinkers.





*Beer and Health*



**ARE BENEFITS ON  
CARDIOVASCULAR RISK**

**OF MODERATE ALCOHOL  
CONSUMPTION**

**COUNTERACTED BY HARMS  
ON CEREBRO-VASCULAR OR  
OTHER DISEASES?**



# BEER CONSUMPTION AND STROKE

The relationship between alcohol consumption and stroke is complex, in part reflecting the heterogeneity of this vascular disease.

There is a J-shaped relationship between alcohol consumption and ischemic stroke, with lower risk for moderate alcohol consumers.

So far, existing data on beer are not conclusive, although some results indicate a positive role of drinking beer in moderation (1 drink/day) against ischemic stroke

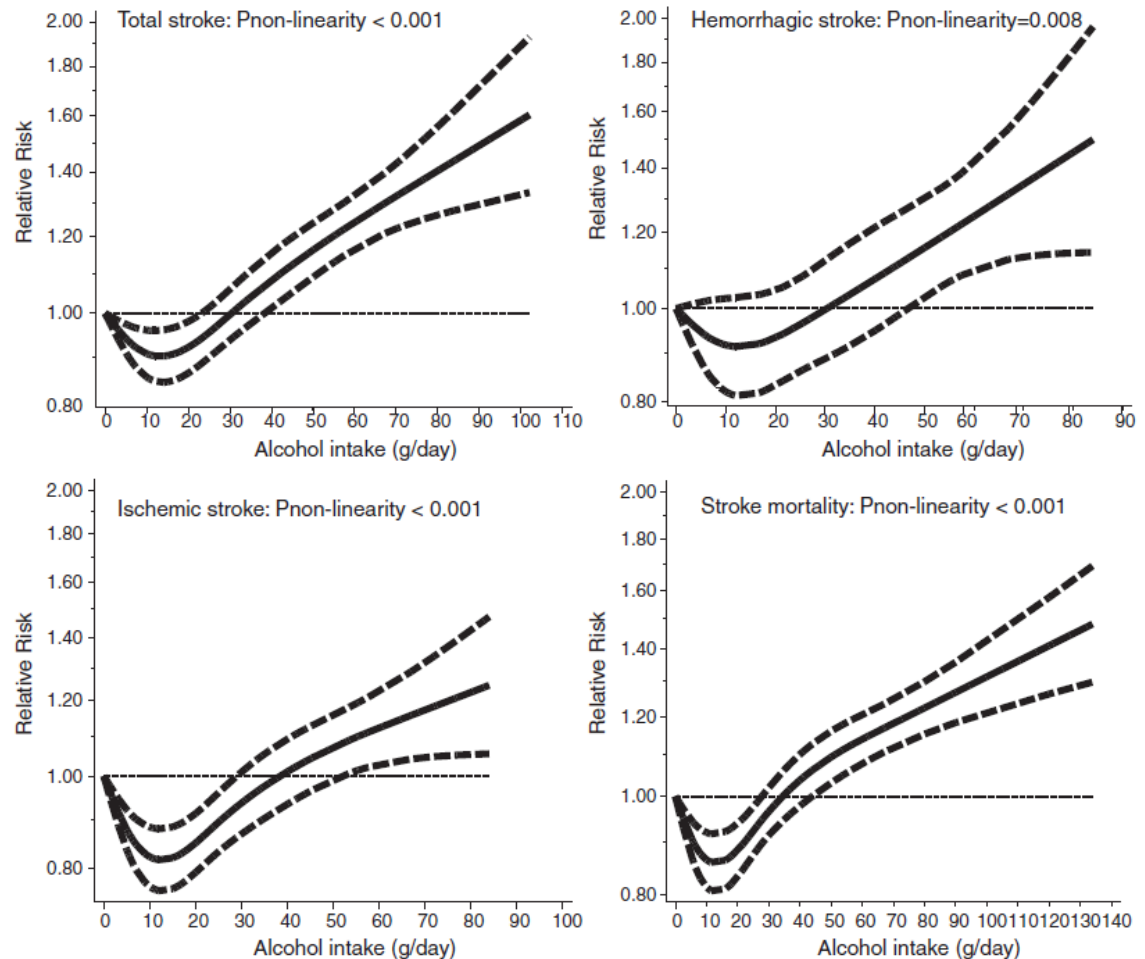


Fig. 5. Dose-response relations between alcohol intake and relative risks of total stroke, hemorrhagic stroke, ischemic stroke, and stroke mortality.



# BEER CONSUMPTION AND CANCER RISK

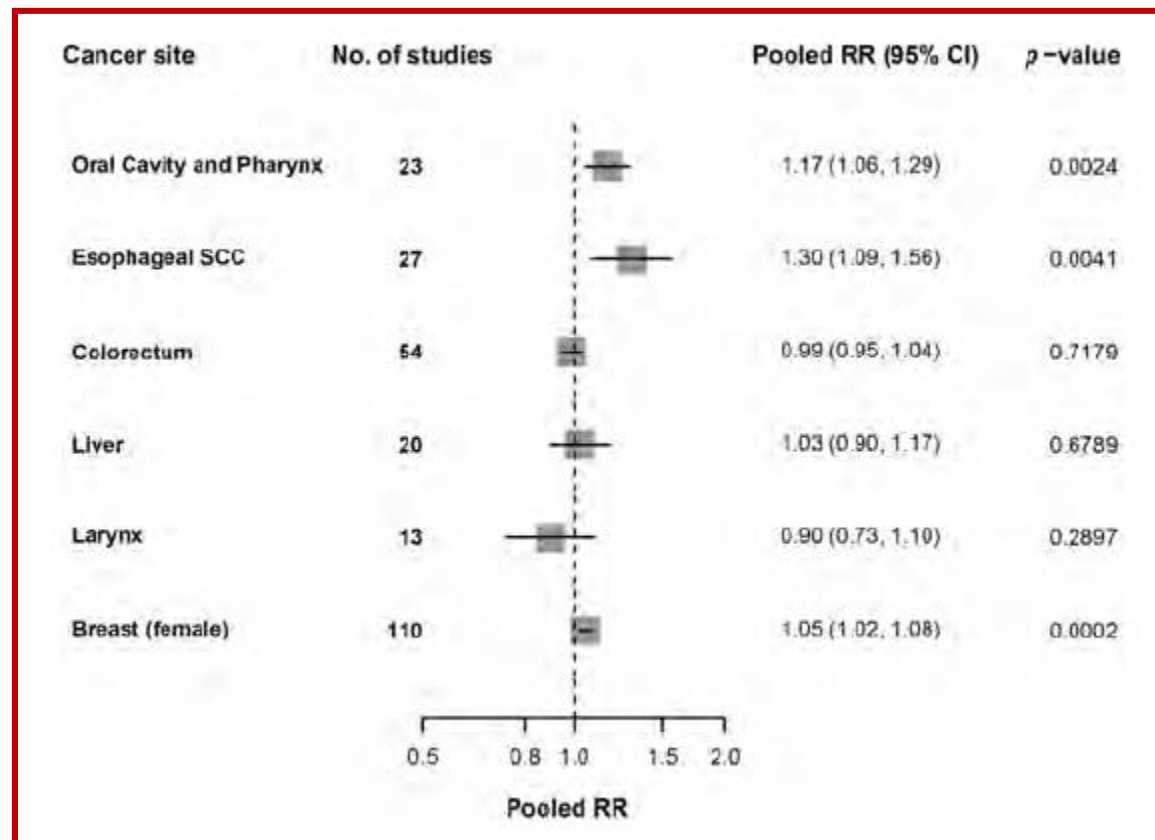
There is no evidence that **heavy** beer drinking is more (or less) harmful on cancer risk than other types of alcoholic beverages.

**Moderate** alcoholic drinking  
*-1 drink/day in women, 2 drinks/day in men-*  
is associated in some studies  
with *a modest excess risk of*  
*oral and pharyngeal, esophageal and breast*  
*cancers.*

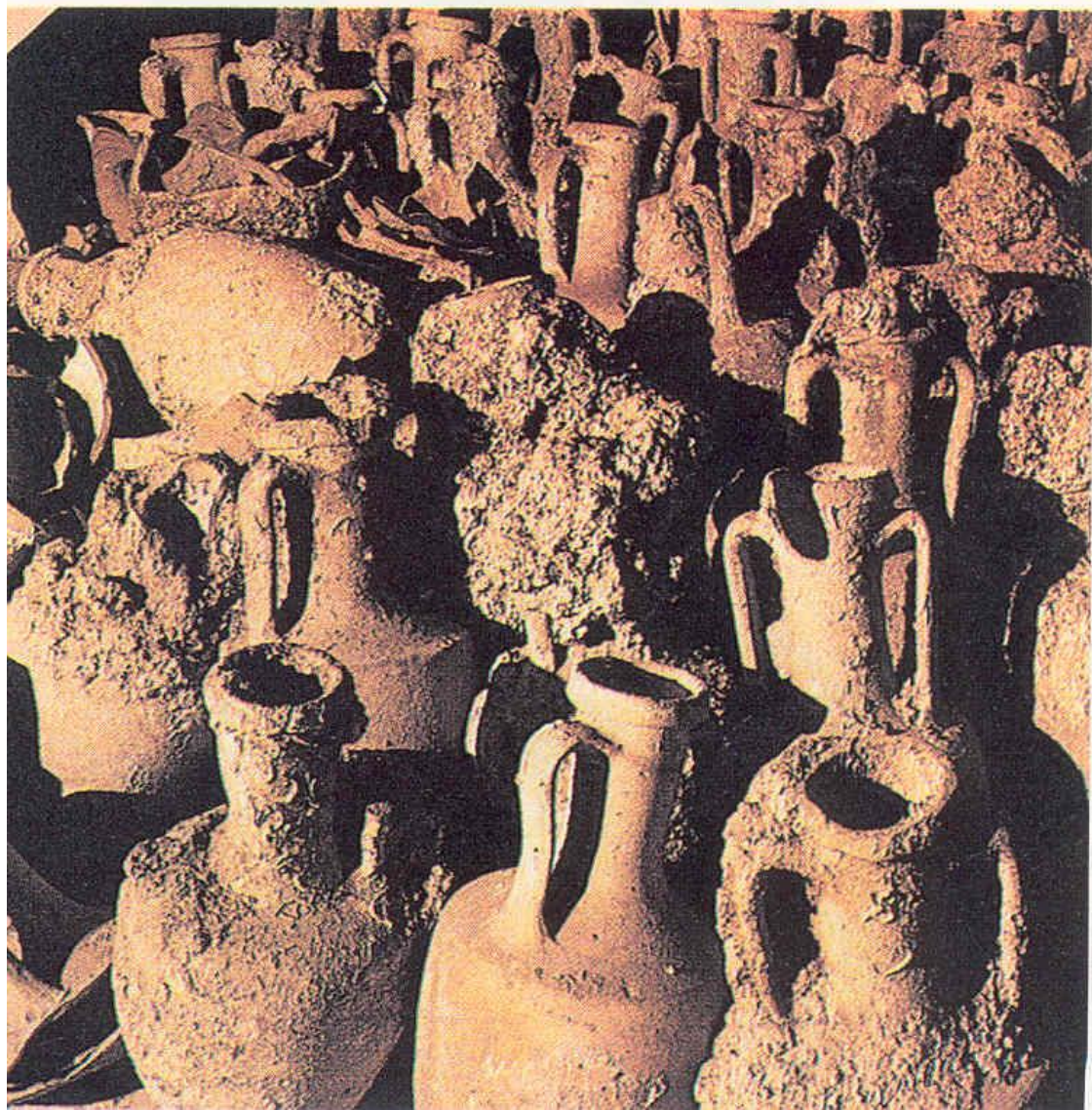


# Light alcohol drinking and cancer: a meta-analysis

V. Bagnardi<sup>1,2\*</sup>, M. Rota<sup>3</sup>, E. Botteri<sup>2,4</sup>, I. Tramacere<sup>5</sup>, F. Islami<sup>6,7</sup>, V. Fedirko<sup>8</sup>, L. Scotti<sup>1</sup>, M. Jenab<sup>8</sup>, F. Turati<sup>4,5</sup>, E. Pasquali<sup>2</sup>, C. Pelucchi<sup>5</sup>, R. Bellocco<sup>1,9</sup>, E. Negri<sup>5</sup>, G. Corrao<sup>1</sup>, J. Rehm<sup>10,11</sup>, P. Boffetta<sup>6,12</sup> & C. La Vecchia<sup>4,5,12</sup>





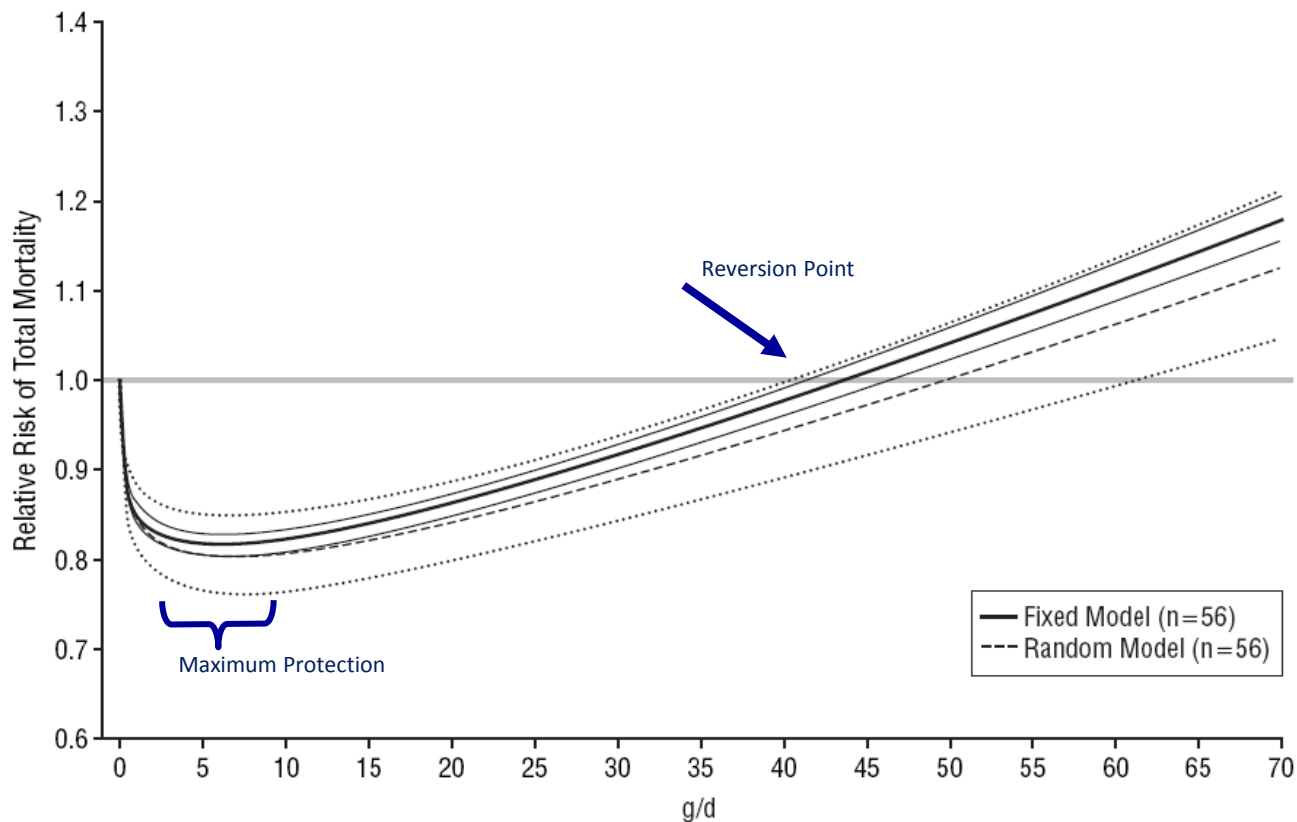




WHAT IS THE EFFECT  
OF MODERATE ALCOHOL  
CONSUMPTION  
ON TOTAL MORTALITY?



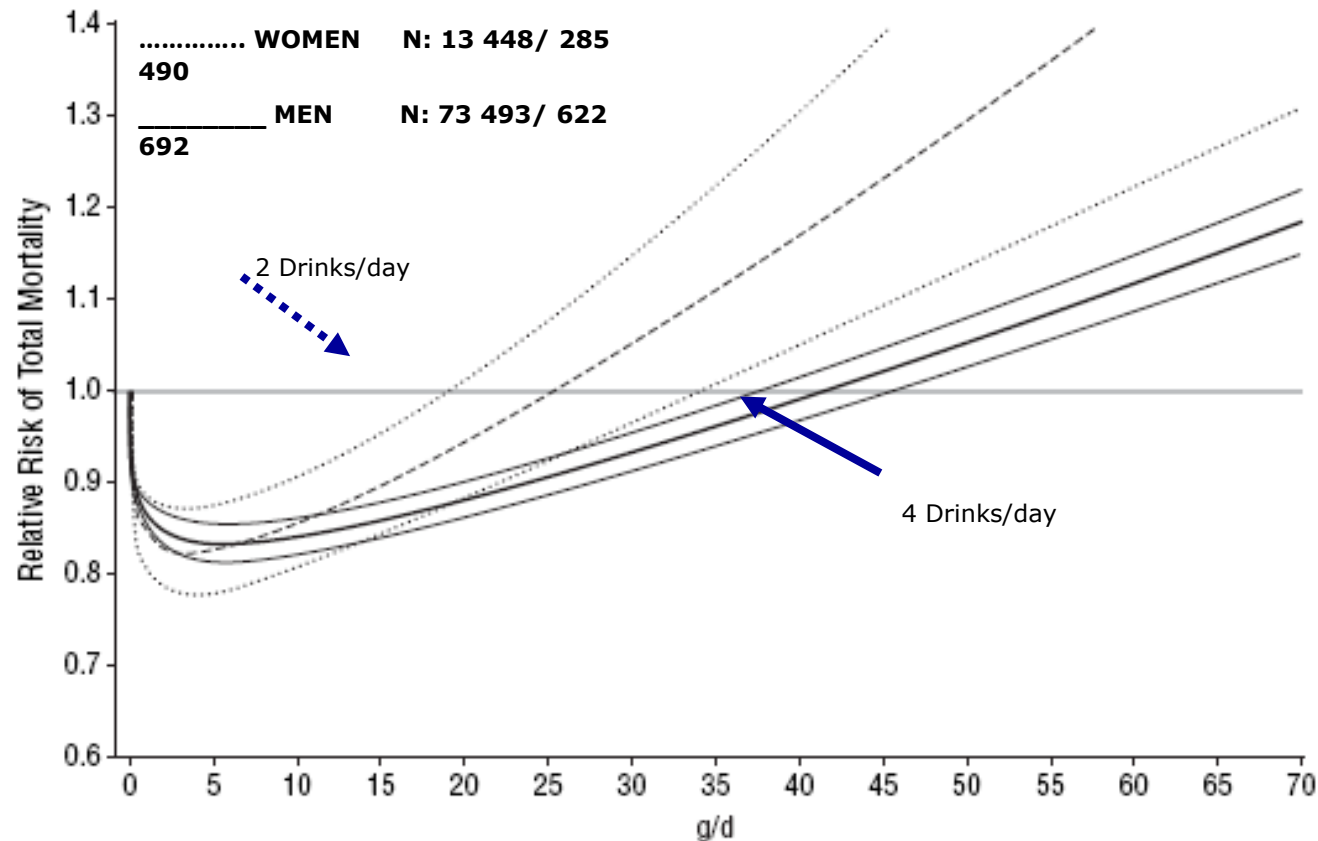
# ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND MORTALITY FOR ANY CAUSE



**Thirty-four studies** provided 56 independent dose-response curves for a total of **1,015,835 subjects** and **94,533 deaths from any cause**.

The association with a lower mortality was apparent up to 42 g/d and the lowest mortality was seen at 6 g/d, (RR, 0.81 [95% CI, 0.80-0.83]).

# ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND MORTALITY FOR ANY CAUSE - IN MEN AND WOMEN

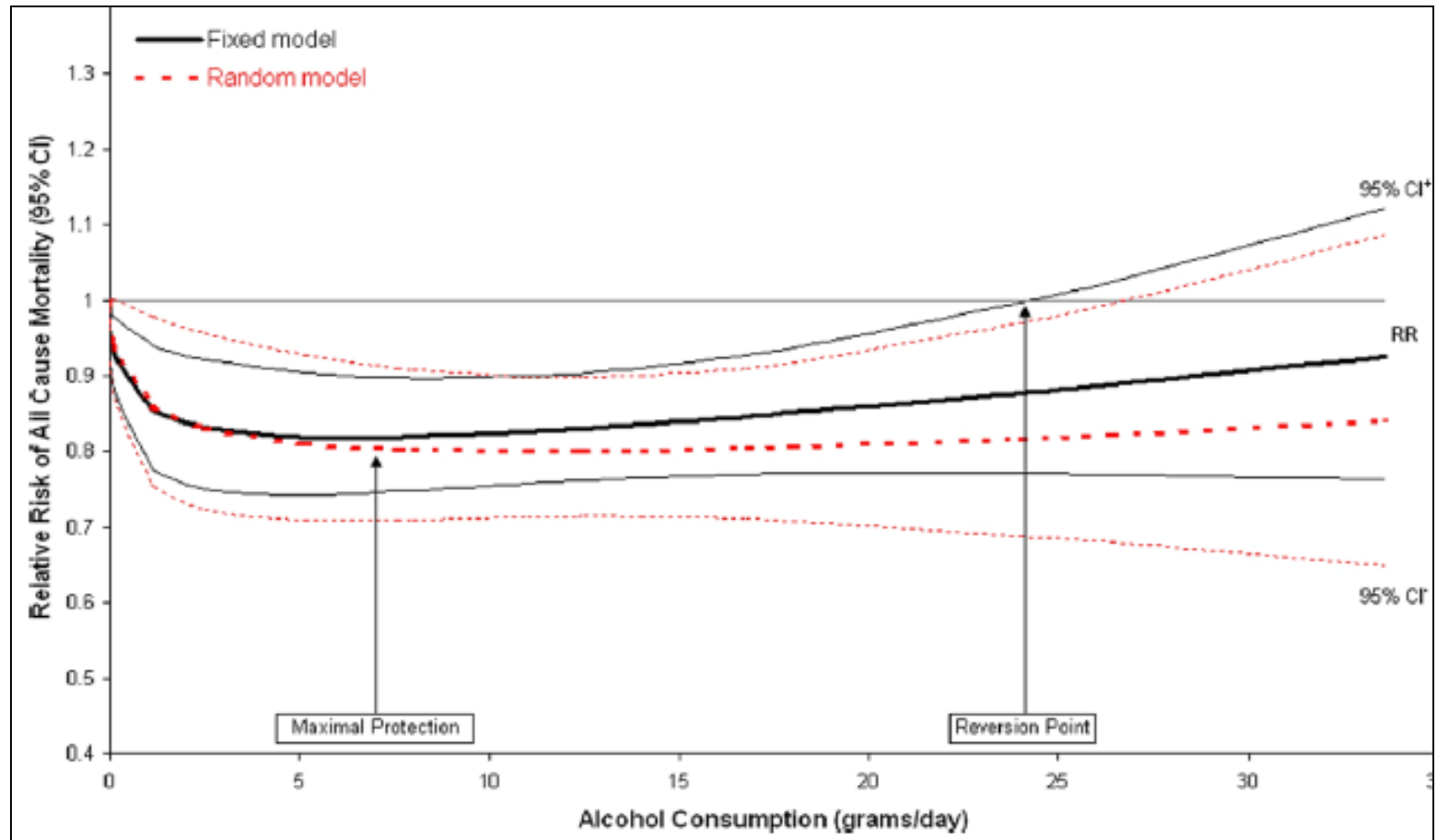


The protection was apparent up to **4 drinks per day in men** but only up to **2 drinks per day in women**. Maximum risk reduction similar in men (17%) and women (18%) at light alcohol intake (6 gr/d).

**IS ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION  
EFFECTIVE  
IN THE SECONDARY  
PREVENTION  
OF CARDIOVASCULAR  
DISEASE?**



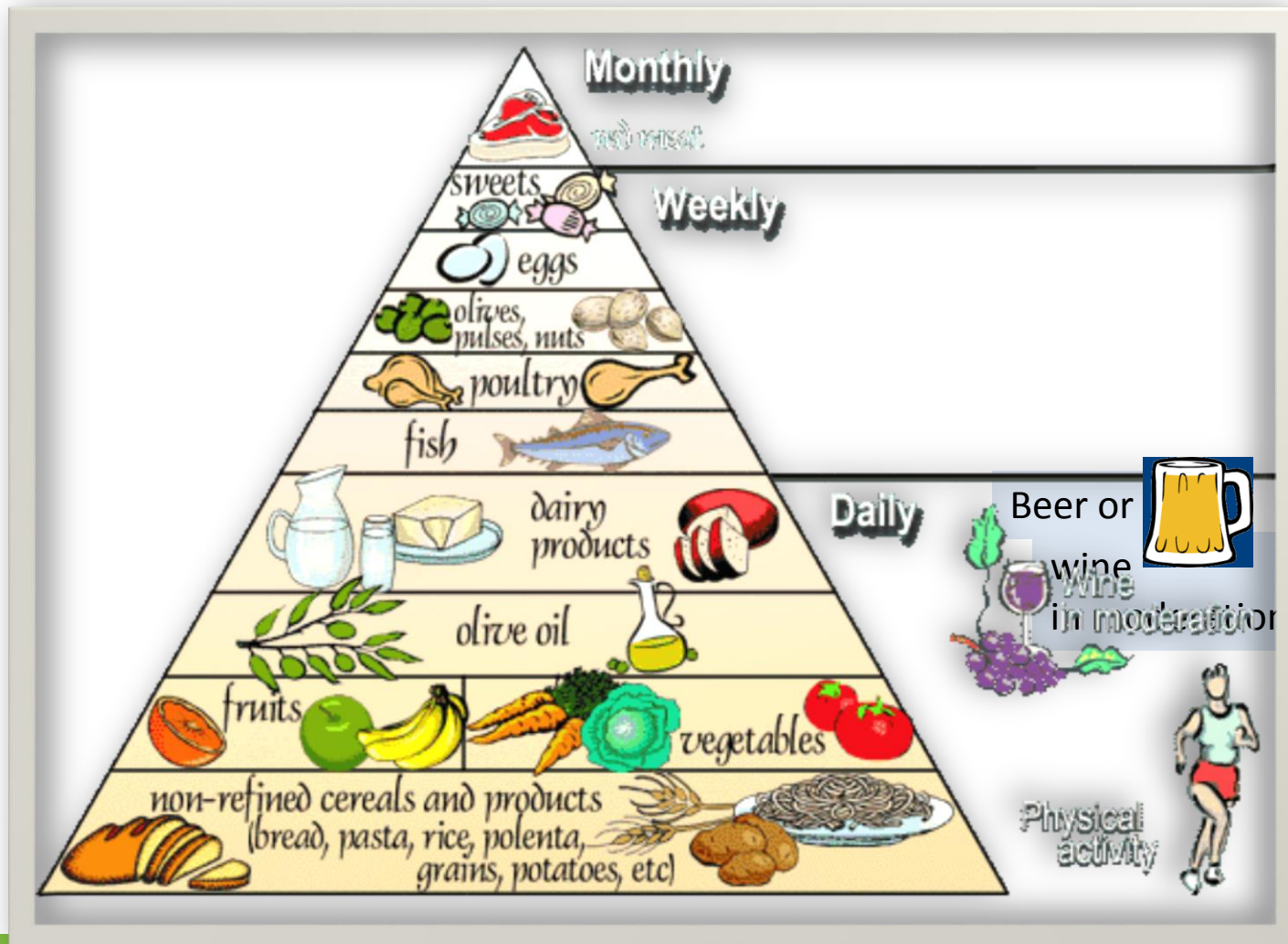
# ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND MORTALITY FOR ANY CAUSE IN PATIENTS WITH CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE



Pooled analysis of **six studies**, comprising 12,553 patients with previous CVD confirmed an overall **J-shaped curve**: the maximal protection was 20% in a range of 5 to 10 g/day.



# PYRAMID OF THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET





# The Moli-sani Project



## EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY

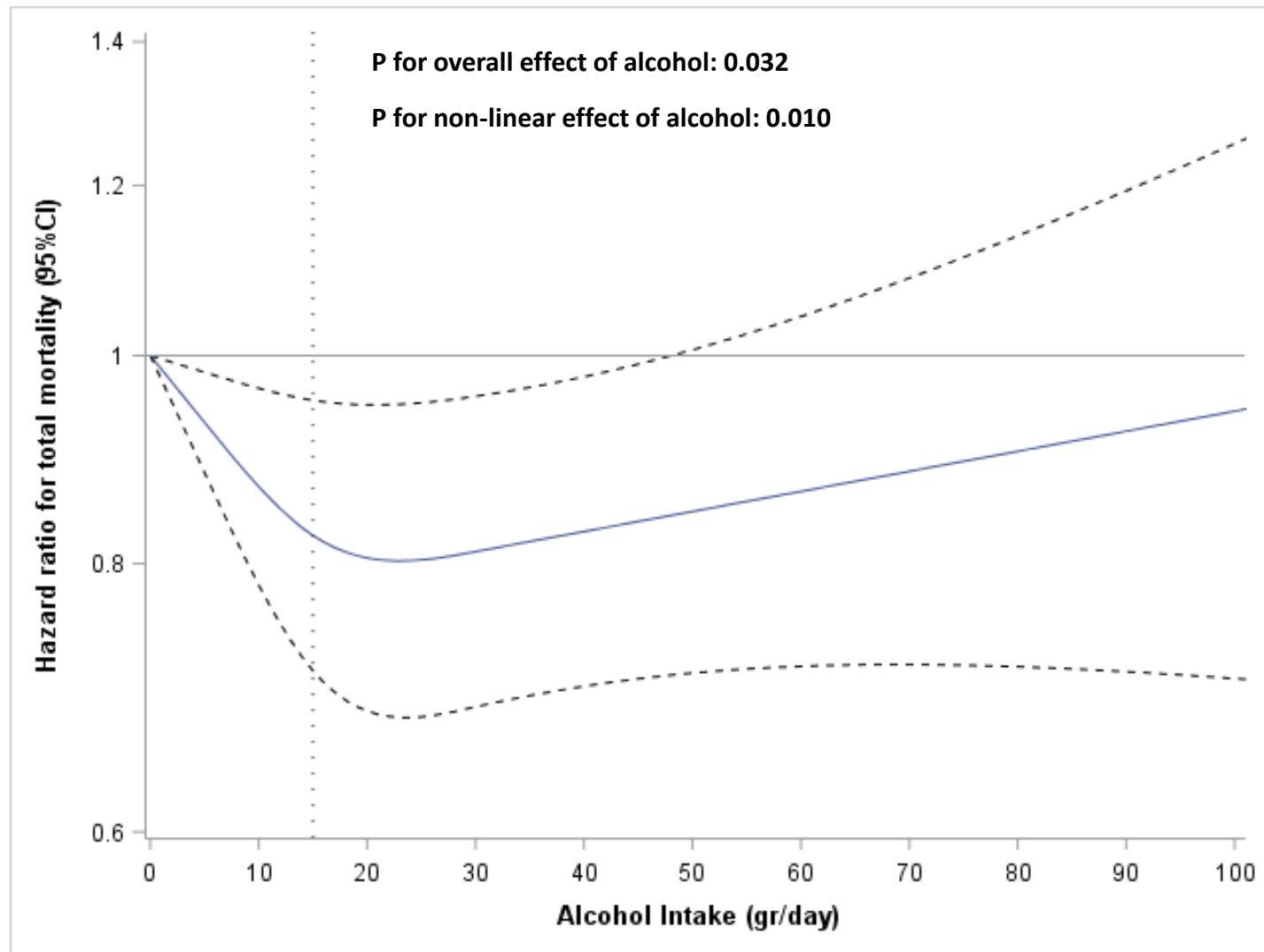
- ✓ *24,325 people living in Molise*
- ✓ *Aged 35 years or more*
- ✓ *Recruitment phase: 2005-2010*
- ✓ *First follow-up:*  
*4.5 years*
- ✓ *EPIC Questionnaire*
- ✓ *MED score*

## Moli-sani clinical end-points

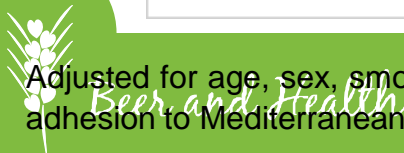
- ✓ *Cardio-cerebrovascular disease*
- ✓ *Tumors*
- ✓ *Common intermediate phenotypes:*
  - *Metabolic syndrome*
  - *Obesity*
  - *Hypertension*
  - *Dyslipidemia*
  - *Diabetes*



# Alcohol intake and risk of all-cause mortality in the Moli-sani cohort



Adjusted for age, sex, smoking, education, income, physical activity, body mass index, total cholesterol, total calories intake, adherence to Mediterranean diet (deprived of alcohol), previous history of cardiovascular disease, hypertension or diabetes.



# RISK OF DEATH ASSOCIATED WITH 2- POINT INCREASE IN THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET SCORE

## IN THE GENERAL POPULATION OF THE MOLI-SANI STUDY



	Risk of death (95%CI)	P value	Reduction in the effect (%)
Mediterranean diet score (2-point increase)	0.631 (0.497-0.801)	0.0002	-
<b>Moderate alcohol consumption</b>	<b>0.688 (0.546-0.867)</b>	<b>0.0015</b>	<b>-15.4</b>
Dairy products (low intake)	0.681 (0.543-0.855)	0.0009	-13.7
Cereals	0.673 (0.541-0.837)	0.0004	-11.4
Fruits and nuts	0.652 (0.524-0.812)	0.0001	-5.8
Monounsaturated /saturated ratio	0.650 (0.510-0.831)	0.0006	-5.2
Meat and meat products (low intake)	0.649 (0.518-0.814)	0.0002	-5.0
Fish	0.648 (0.510-0.823)	0.0004	-4.7
Vegetables	0.646 (0.510-0.819)	0.0003	-4.0



# Mediterranean diet and risk of death in the elderly ( $\geq 65$ y)

## The contribution of moderate alcohol intake



N of subjects = 5,180; N of deaths = 771; Follow-up = 7.5 y (median)

	Whole sample	
	Risk of death HR (95%CI)	Reduction in the total effect (%)
2-point increase in MDS	0.865 (0.787-0.949)	-
Minus MUFA/SFA ratio	0.898 (0.815-0.989)	-25.9
Minus Fish	0.891 (0.813-0.976)	-21.2
<b>Minus Alcohol</b>	<b>0.889 (0.813-0.972)</b>	<b>-19.3</b>
Minus Cereals	0.879 (0.807-0.959)	-12.7
Minus Dairy products (low intake)	0.877 (0.801-0.959)	-10.7
Minus Meat and meat products (low intake)	0.868 (0.795-0.948)	-4.7
Minus Fruits and nuts	0.867 (0.794-0.947)	-3.4
Minus Vegetables	0.862 (0.786-0.946)	-0.1
Minus Legumes	0.845 (0.770-0.926)	12.5



Hazard ratio (95%CI) for the models adjusted for age, sex, education, household income, leisure-time physical activity, history of cancer, CVD.

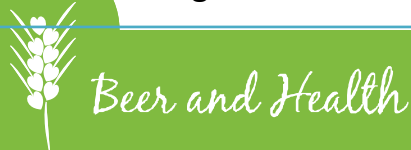
# Mediterranean diet and risk of death in subjects with diabetes

## The contribution of moderate alcohol intake



	Risk of death (95%CI)	P value	Reduction in the total effect (%)
<b>Mediterranean diet score (2-point increase)</b>	0.632 (0.494-0.803)	0.0003	-
<b>After alternate removal of each food item</b>			
<b>Moderate alcohol consumption</b>	<b>0.686 (0.541-0.871)</b>	<b>0.0020</b>	<b>-14.7</b>
<b>Dairy products (low intake)</b>	0.681 (0.539-0.862)	0.0014	-13.4
<b>Cereals</b>	0.677 (0.540-0.847)	0.0007	-12.2
<b>Monounsaturated /saturated ratio</b>	0.653 (0.507-0.841)	0.0010	-5.8
<b>Vegetables</b>	0.653 (0.512-0.834)	0.0006	-5.8
<b>Fruits and nuts</b>	0.651 (0.519-0.817)	0.0002	-5.2
<b>Fish</b>	0.650 (0.508-0.833)	0.0006	-5.0
<b>Meat and meat products (low intake)</b>	0.645 (0.510-0.814)	0.0002	-3.4
<b>Legumes</b>	0.600 (0.469-0.767)	<.0001	+8.7

Hazard ratios from the model controlled for age, sex, education, total energy intake, total physical activity, smoking, years from diagnosis of diabetes, blood glucose and hypercholesterolemia.

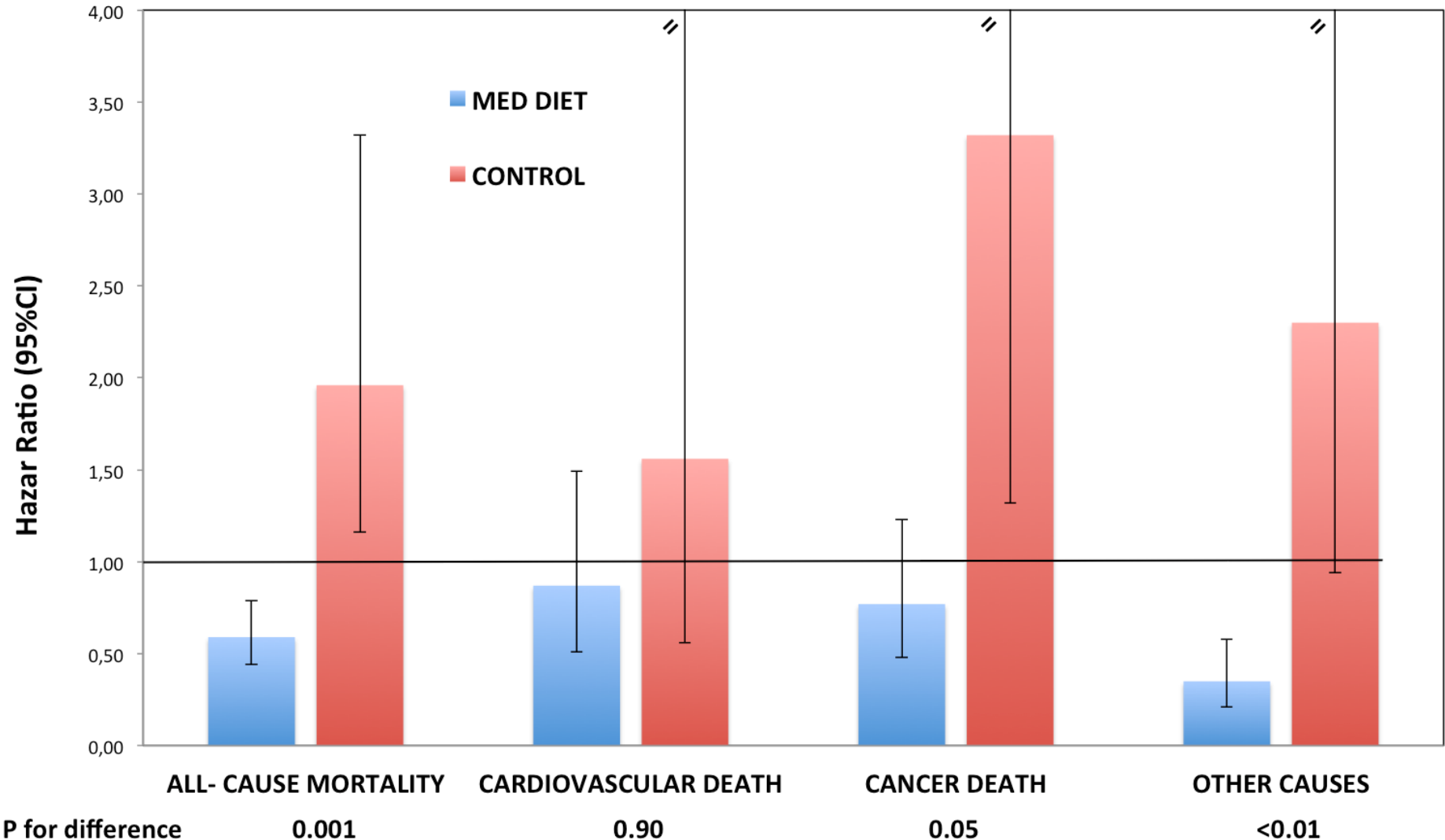


# HEAVY ALCOHOL INTAKE (> 15-70 G/DAY) AND MORTALITY RISK IN THE PREDIMED TRIAL

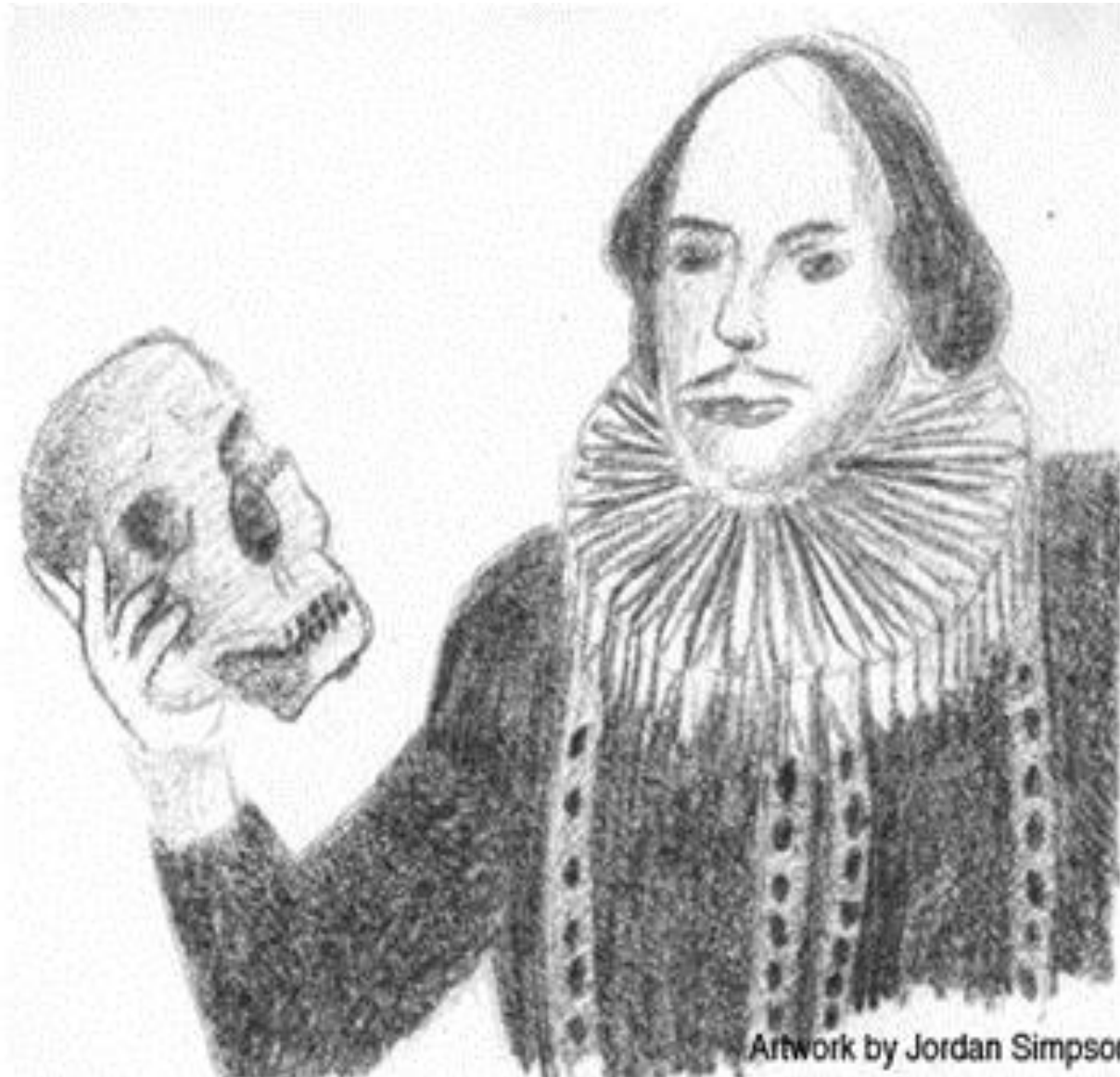
	<b>MED DIET</b>	<b>CONTROL</b>	<i>P for interaction</i>
<b>ALL- CAUSE MORTALITY</b>	<b>0.59</b> (0.44-0.79)	<b>1.96</b> (1.16-3.32)	0.001
<b>CARDIOVASCULAR</b>	<b>0.87</b> (0.51-1.49)	<b>1.56</b> (0.56-4.31)	0.90
<b>CANCER</b>	<b>0.77</b> (0.48-1.23)	<b>3.32</b> (1.32-8.34)	0.05
<b>OTHER CAUSES</b>	<b>0.35</b> (0.21-0.58)	<b>2.30</b> (0.94-5.64)	<0.01

*R. Estruch, personal communication (2017)*

# HEAVY ALCOHOL INTAKE (> 15-70 G/DAY) AND MORTALITY RISK IN THE PREDIMED TRIAL



# ***THE NOVEL HAMLET TO DRINK OR NOT TO DRINK ?***



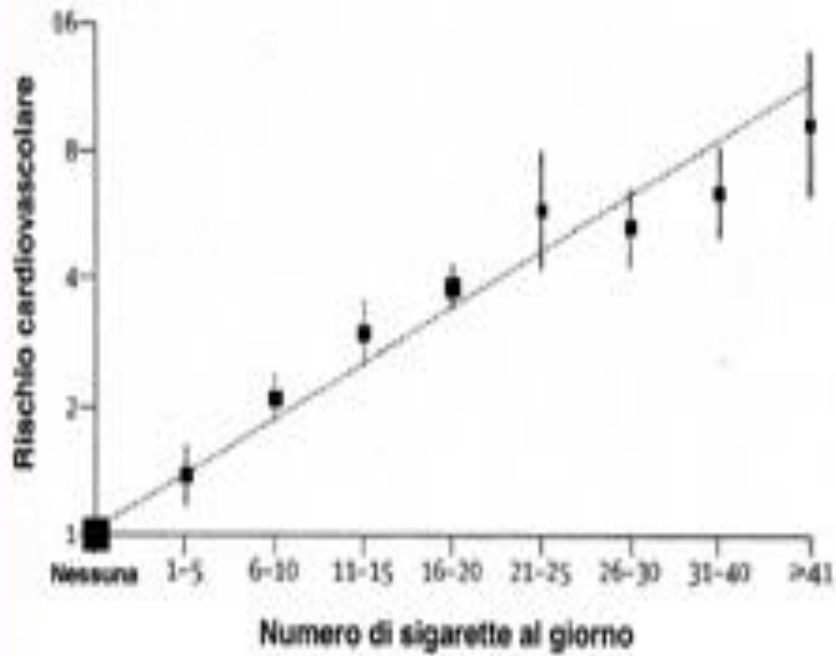
# AN INTERNATIONAL CONSENSUS DOCUMENT

## FIVE SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS

1. Regular and moderate beer consumption protects against cardiovascular risk and total mortality, both in healthy adults and in cardiovascular patients.
2. The dose –effect relationship between beer consumption and vascular risk is characterized by a J-shaped curve.
3. For moderate levels of alcohol consumption, the relative risks of cancer are small and are similar for beer, wine and spirits.
4. Adherence to Mediterranean Diet may counteract/reduce the (cancer) risk associated to alcohol intake
5. Excessive alcohol use is detrimental to several human organs and function and is a major public health and social problem.







*Yusuf et al, Lancet 2004*

*Di Castelnuovo et al, Circulation 2002*



Beer and Health