



Public consultation: draft *Australian guidelines to reduce health risks from drinking alcohol*

Personal details

Full name Department of Education, Skills and Employment

[NHMRC has removed personal information]

Submission reflects

Organisation / Individual An organisation

Organisation Name Department of Education, Skills and Employment

Please identify the best term to describe the Organisation Government department or agency – Federal

Questions

- 1. Please indicate which format you read the guideline in.**
PDF report
- 2. The draft guidelines are presented in a new IT platform, MAGICapp. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statement: *The draft Australian Guidelines to Reduce Health Risks from Drinking Alcohol are easy to navigate in MAGICapp.***
Neither agree nor disagree
- 3. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statement: *The Plain English summary is clear, simple and easy to understand.***
Agree
- 4. Do you have any comments on how the *Plain English summary* could be improved?**
No comment
- 5. Do you have any comments on how the *Introduction* could be improved?**
No comment
- 6. Do you have any comments on how the *Background* could be improved?**
The background information is useful and sets the scene for the state of alcohol consumption in Australia. The section under background, titled 'Current alcohol consumption: patterns and trends in Australia' has some interesting facts, however the title 'current' does not necessarily seem to reflect the data and evidence provided as most of it is from 2016/17.
- 7. Please indicate how strongly you agree with the following statement: *The Understanding risk section is clear, simple and easy to understand.***
Agree
- 8. Do you have any comments on how the *Understanding risk* section could be improved?**

No comment

9. Do you have any comments on how the evidence has been used to develop the recommendation for Guideline One?

Guideline one clearly sets out the recommendation to reduce the risks of alcohol-related harm, as well as the evidence to support it. It also makes it clear who the guideline applies to.

10. Is there any evidence relevant for this guideline that has been missed? If so, please provide the citation(s).

No comment

11. Do you have any editorial or readability comments on the sections that make up Guideline One?

The key messages and key info sections provide short, simple easy to digest messages that people can take away and remember.

12. Do you have any comments on how the evidence has been used to develop the recommendation for Guideline Two?

Although the evidence behind the recommendation for guideline two is clearly credible, it does not seem to be much different to previous evidence that is likely already widely known by the Australian public. Again, some of the references are quite dated, going back to 2014, understanding the guidelines can only reference the available research and much of it was undertaken during this period.

13. Is there any evidence relevant for this guideline that has been missed? If so, please provide the citation(s).

Nothing specific, but anything more recent would be useful.

14. Do you have any editorial or readability comments on the sections that make up Guideline Two?

Clearly set out, text boxes assist with readability and are helpful in pulling out key information.

15. Do you have any comments on how the evidence has been used to develop the recommendation for Guideline Three?

Similar to the above, the recommendations made here are consistent with what many people are already aware in regards to pregnancy and breastfeeding. However, the breakdown of evidence provides interesting information to consider.

16. Is there any evidence relevant for this guideline that has been missed? If so, please provide the citation(s).

No comment

17. Do you have any editorial or readability comments on the sections that make up Guideline Three?

Figure 7.3. provides colour and interest and assists to convey the message.

18. Do you have any comments on how the *Drinking frequency* section could be improved?

More recent data

19. Do you have any comments on how the *Administrative report* could be improved?

no comment

20. Are there any additional terms that should be added to the *glossary*?

no comment

21. Are there any additional abbreviations or acronyms that should be added to this section?

no comment

22. Do you have any comments on how the *Australian standard drinks* section could be improved?

No, this section is very clear and easily conveys the message.

Disclaimer I have read the security warning/disclaimer below and accept the risks and conditions outlined.

Permission to publish yes