

the

RED CUP

Q&A



separating alcohol fact from fiction
EVERY TUESDAY IN THE DAILY WILDCAT

Q Is butt-chugging dangerous?

A. Though it may seem otherwise, you are not reading *News of the Weird*. Butt-chugging, otherwise known as an alcohol enema, is a dangerous and often painful way of getting drunk. A tube is passed through the rectum and alcohol gets poured directly into the colon. Ewww! Alcohol is absorbed through the mucous membrane of the intestines and enters the bloodstream. When compared to oral ingestion, the abundance of blood vessels in the colon increases the speed of intoxication.

University of Tennessee students recently brought butt-chugging back to the national forefront after a fraternity chapter was suspended for a butt-chugging incident. Many members were passed out and one member was dropped off at a local hospital with a BAC over .4. This level is five times the legal limit and considered within “the death zone” for alcohol poisoning.

Butt-chugging is not the only exotic way to introduce alcohol into the body. Some people “eyeball” vodka and there are stories of vodka soaked tampons used by women and men.

While these unusual alcohol intake methods are thankfully not widespread, they are extremely dangerous. The American Academy of Ophthalmology condemns the practice of eyeballing, warning it could lead to permanent vision problems and blindness. It also burns painfully.

While no one knows just how common these practices are, it is important to know that according to National Institute of Alcoholism and Alcohol Addiction, about 1,825 college students die each year from an alcohol related injury.

If you still need proof that alcohol can make one do risky things, look no further than butt-chugging, eyeballing, or other questionable ways people get intoxicated.



wildfact

70% of UA students prefer to be around friends who drink moderately and stay in control. (2012 Health & Wellness Survey, n=2,406)



Got a question
about alcohol?

Email it to redcup@email.arizona.edu



www.health.arizona.edu

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