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## Nurses' Knowledge of Alcohol-Interactive Medications

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Oral Presentation O4.4

## **NURSES' KNOWLEDGE OF ALCOHOL-INTERACTIVE MEDICATIONS**

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Nearly 57% of adult Americans report drinking alcohol in the past month, and 41.5% of current drinkers take alcohol-interactive (AI) medications. Concurrent consumption of both substances can result in adverse interactions. Nurses are in a position to screen and appropriately teach patients. However, little is known about nurses' knowledge of AI medications. The purpose of this study is to determine nurses' knowledge of AI medications and factors that may affect knowledge level. The Jarvis Nursing Knowledge of Alcohol-Interactive Medications was developed and distributed to nurses employed by a large Midwestern health system. Nurses (n = 211) demonstrated lack of AI knowledge by correctly identifying AI medications only 56.3% of the time. Work environment, years of nursing practice, and educational level did not have a significant influence in AI knowledge. The authors conclude that AI medications should be emphasized in nursing curricula so nurses can exercise more vigilance in nurse-patient interactions.