



ANATOMY OF A DRUNKEN PERSON

Foggy Brain— Alcohol is a depressant, which slows down the brain. A drunken person's memory, judgment, emotion, coordination and senses are impaired, leaving him or her susceptible to accidents. Heavy drinking can cause addiction and permanent damage to the brain and nervous system.

Overworked Liver— When a person drinks, the liver works overtime. It has to turn the poisonous enzymes in alcohol into harmless substances. About one in three heavy drinkers develops cirrhosis, a potentially deadly liver disease.

Flushed Skin— Alcohol causes blood vessels to dilate and more blood flows to the skin. This causes a loss of body heat in cold weather.

Blurred Eyes— The muscles in the eyes relax, causing blurred or doubled vision and reducing side vision, depth perception and the ability to see at night.

Irritated Stomach— Alcohol causes the stomach to secrete acids that can damage the lining to the stomach and cause peptic ulcers. Cancer, including cancers of the throat and stomach, are linked to long-term alcohol abuse.

Impaired Reproductive System— Heavy drinking can result in impotence in men. Also, pregnant women who drink risk giving birth to babies with fetal alcohol syndrome. Babies with this condition suffer from brain damage, learning problems, poor coordination and hyperactivity.