



Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences Section – 2011

I22 Investigating Correlations Between Drug and Alcohol Intake and Fire Fatalities

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After attending this presentation, attendees will have an insight into the correlation between intoxication and specific circumstances of fire fatalities.

This presentation will impact forensic science by presenting information which will provide policy makers with data to inform community fire safety strategies for vulnerable groups, furthermore, this information will be of great value for fire investigators when involved in fatal fire investigation.

Approximately two people per day are killed in fire incidents in the United Kingdom. While the circumstances of each event may be very different a common trend is the intoxication of the victims either by drugs or alcohol. This work investigates the correlations between such intoxication and the circumstances of the fire incident in terms of variables such as age, gender, location of the fire, type of dwelling, etc.

Data was gathered for 744 fatal fire cases in London, England. This data included information relating to drug use alcohol consumption of the victims involved. The data was coded and analyzed using analytical software and the correlations between the specific variables are presented. This has facilitated the elucidation of specific trends in the data which can inform community fire safety strategies for vulnerable and at risk groups.

Fire Death, Toxicology, Investigative Correlations