



Glossary

Alcohol: A liquid produced by fermentation, which is the action of yeast on liquids containing sugars and starches. A depressant drug that slows down activity in the central nervous system.

Alcoholism: A clinical syndrome characterised by very heavy alcohol consumption and continued drinking despite severe negative social and physical consequences. See also Drug dependence.

Binge drinking: A colloquial term for the excessive consumption of alcohol over a short period of time with the intended effect of becoming intoxicated. There is no scientific term for binge drinking, as the amount of alcohol consumed before intoxication occurs varies depending on the consumer's age, sex, body mass and prior experience with alcohol.

Blood alcohol content: Measure of the amount of alcohol in a person's blood. Generally, the more alcohol a person drinks, the higher their blood alcohol content (BAC).

Caffeine: A stimulant that acts on the central nervous system to speed up the messages to and from the brain. It is a substance found in the leaves, seeds or fruit of a number of plant species, such as coffee and tea plants.

Cumene process (cumene-phenol process, Hock process): Is an industrial process for developing phenol and acetone from benzene and propylene. The term stems from cumene (isopropyl benzene), the intermediate material during the process. It was invented by Heinrich Hock in 1944 and independently by R. Ūdris and P. Sergeyev in 1942 (USSR).

Drug dependence: Occurs when a drug is central to a person's life, they have trouble cutting down their use and experience symptoms of withdrawal when trying to cut down. Can be physical or psychological, or both. When a person's body has adapted to a drug and is used to functioning with the drug present, the person is said to be physically dependent upon that drug. When a person feels compelled to use a drug in order to function effectively or to achieve emotional satisfaction, the person is said to be psychologically dependent upon that drug.

Denatured alcohol: It is also called methylated spirits or denatured rectified spirit, is ethanol that has additives to make it poisonous, bad tasting, foul smelling or nauseating, to discourage recreational consumption. In some cases it is also dyed. Pyridine, methanol,



or copper sulphate can be added to make denatured alcohol poisonous, and denatonium can be added to make it bitter.

Drink spiking: The practice of adding alcohol or another substance to a drink without the knowledge of the person who will be consuming it. The effects depend on the type and quantity of the additive used and can include vomiting, loss of consciousness, respiratory difficulties and loss of control. Drink spiking is illegal in Australia.

Raney nickel also called **spongy nickel**, is a fine-grained solid composed mostly of nickel derived from a nickel-aluminium alloy. A variety of grades are known, but most are gray solids. Some are pyrophoric, most are used as air-stable slurries. Raney nickel is used as a reagent and as a catalyst in organic chemistry. It was developed in 1926 by American engineer Murray Raney for the hydrogenation of vegetable oils.

