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PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

Effects of alcohol consumption and individual differences on emotion recognition

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You are being invited to take part in a research study. Before you decide, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it would involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish. Ask us if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information. Take time to decide whether or not you wish to take part and remember that your participation is voluntary.

What is the purpose of the study?

The purpose of this study is to better understand how alcohol affects the way which we process social information (such as faces), and how this may differ between individuals.

Why have I been invited?

You have been chosen because you have enquired about our studies and requested to receive further information following reading the summary version described in the letter of invitation or in a study advertisement.

Do I have to take part?

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you would be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form prior to any further procedures. If you decide to take part you are still free to withdraw at any time and without giving a reason. A decision to withdraw at any time, or a decision not to take part, would not affect your future or be held against you in any way.

Am I eligible to take part?

Please note you must be aged over 18 to volunteer and may be asked to provide identification as proof of age.

Please read all of these criteria very carefully and contact the researcher if you have any doubts regarding your eligibility. If you do not pass the screening on the study day, you will not be able to take part, and we cannot offer reimbursement for screening failures.

In order to take part you should;

- Be in good physical and psychiatric health.
- Drink between 5 and 35 alcoholic units* per week if female or between 10 and 50 alcoholic units* per week if male.
- Be aged between 18 and 40 years.
- Be able to attend two sessions approximately one week apart
- Speak English as first language or equivalent level of fluency.

You would **not** be able to take part in the study if you;

- Consume alcohol less than 24 hours prior to the study sessions
- Weigh less than 50 kg if female or 60 kg if male
- Have a strong familial history of alcoholism defined as one or more immediate relative (parent, sibling) or more than one other relative (e.g., cousin, grandparent)
- Have a history of psychiatric disorder (including drug addiction)
- Have an uncorrected visual impairment
- Have an uncorrected auditory impairment

* One unit equals one 25 ml single measure of spirit (ABV 40%), or a third of a pint of beer (ABV 5-6%) or half a standard (175 ml) glass of red wine (ABV 12%).

In addition to the above, we are recruiting people based on certain personality characteristics. You would therefore be required to complete a short online questionnaire. The researcher would contact you after this to let you know whether you are eligible to take part. If you are ineligible your questionnaire data would be destroyed.

Expenses and reimbursement

On completion of the study, you would be reimbursed £20. If you are a student in the School of Experimental Psychology at the University of Bristol, you can request equivalent Experimental Hours course credits if preferred.

Participants who are ineligible on the testing day based on the criteria described above, will not be reimbursed or given course credit. Please read these criteria carefully to ensure that you are eligible. Contact the researcher if you are unsure or if have any questions regarding eligibility.

How much time will the study take?

You will be required to attend two study sessions which will last approximately 75 minutes each. Study sessions would be held at least one week apart.

You should refrain from consuming alcohol 24 hours before your test sessions. During the test session, we will take your weight so that we can prepare the alcoholic drink for your size.

What will I have to do?

Upon arrival at the first study session, you will be given the opportunity to read this information sheet again and ask any questions you may have. We would then ask you to complete a consent form before we would screen you for eligibility. If eligible, you will be asked to complete a series of questionnaires. Then you would be given 10 minutes to consume a lime/tonic drink. At the sessions, you will receive a drink that may or may not contain alcohol. If alcoholic, the drink would contain vodka (dose: 0.4 g alcohol per kg of bodyweight). All drinks would be chilled, and contain tonic and lime. You would not be told at the session whether you will receive alcohol or not and therefore you should make plans to not do anything considered dangerous after alcohol on *both* study days.

We would need to measure your weight at the start of the session so that we can make the drink appropriate for your size. The drink would contain between 2.5 and 4.5 alcoholic units (depending on your body weight). After this you will be given 10 minutes to sit quietly before completing two computerised emotion perception task. Once this has concluded you will be asked to complete another series of questionnaires and we will take a breath alcohol reading. The study procedure will be the same on both days. You will be debriefed (i.e., given more information about the study) and reimbursed at the end of session two.

What are the possible disadvantages and risks of taking part?

There are no expected risks of taking part in this study beyond the risk associated with acute alcohol consumption. On each study day, you will receive a lime/tonic drink that may or may not contain alcohol. If alcoholic, the drink would contain between 2.5 and 4.5 units of alcohol, depending on your body weight (actual dose will be 0.4 g/kg). As a regular consumer of alcohol, you will not be expected to have any negative reactions to the drink. However, you may experience feelings of intoxication. You should not drive, cycle, operate heavy machinery or engage in any other activity considered hazardous following alcohol consumption, for the rest of the day. You should make necessary arrangements to avoid the need to do any such activity after the sessions. At the end of the sessions, we recommend that you stay behind until the effects of alcohol have worn off, and we can arrange a taxi to take you home (local) if required.

Your life insurance or private medical insurance could be affected by taking part and if you have private medical insurance you should check with the company before agreeing to participate.

What are the possible benefits of taking part?

You would not directly benefit from taking part in this research study and your participation is voluntary. However, the information we get from this study may help us to understand the effects of alcohol consumption on emotion recognition.

What if there is a problem?

Any complaint about the way you have been dealt with during the study or any possible harm you might suffer would be addressed.

If you are harmed by taking part in this research project, there are no special compensation arrangements. If you are harmed due to someone's negligence, then you may have grounds for legal action but you may have to pay for it. Regardless of this, if you wish to complain or have any concerns about any aspect of the way you've been approached or treated during the course of this study, please contact Angela Attwood (angela.attwood@bristol.ac.uk). If you would prefer to

contact someone independent of the study you can email the University of Bristol's research office (RED-office@bristol.ac.uk).

Will my taking part in this study be kept confidential?

Yes. Personal information that could identify you (e.g., name, email address, date of birth) will be kept securely by the study team and will not be shared publicly or with other research groups. On occasion this information may be made available to university staff, funders or government bodies which monitor whether research studies are performed properly. However, this will only be in the context of monitoring and this information will not be used to contact you or to make your participation in this study known.

What would happen to the results of the research study?

During the study, we will collect two types of data: screening data and study data. Both types of data are anonymised. This means we give the data a unique identification number and your personal information (e.g., name, email address, date of birth) will be removed, so that you cannot be identified by this information.

Screening data are collected before you are fully enrolled onto the study. They identify whether you are eligible for the study, but they are not part of the study data. We keep these data securely within our research group but do not share them.

Study data refer to the information gathered once you are enrolled onto the study. These data are collected to answer our research questions.

When the study has been completed, we analyse the study data we have collected and report the findings. This will be reported in an appropriate scientific journal or presented at a scientific meeting. If you would like a copy of the final paper, you may request this. As your study data are anonymised, it will not be possible to identify you by name from any aspect of documentation or reporting for this research study.

At the end of the study your data will become "open data". This means that it will be stored in an online database so that it is publicly available. Your screening data will not be shared.

What is open data?

Open data means that study data are made available, free of charge, to anyone interested in the research, or who wishes to conduct their own analysis of the data. We would therefore have no control over how these data are used. However, all data would be anonymised before being made available and therefore there would be no way to identify you from the research data.

Why open data?

Sharing research data and findings is considered best scientific practice and is a requirement of many funding bodies and scientific journals. As a large proportion of research is publicly funded, the outcomes of the research should be made publicly available. Sharing data helps to maximise the impact of investment through wider use, and encourages new avenues of research.

Can I withdraw my study data after I have participated in the study?

Yes. If you decide that you do not want your data to be used you can contact the study team and request that your data are withdrawn. You can do this up to one year after the study ends or up until the point the data are shared as “open data” (whichever comes first). At this point links between your identify and your anonymised data set would be destroyed, and therefore we would no longer be able to withdraw your data as we would no longer be able to identify which data set is yours.

Who is organising and funding the research?

The research has been organised by Andy Eastwood and has been funded by the University of Bristol.

Who has reviewed the study?

Ethics approval has been obtained from the Faculty of Science Research Ethics Committee at the University of Bristol (reference: 26011747361).

Who can I contact for further information?

For further information or to book a study session please contact Andy Eastwood at a.eastwood@bristol.ac.uk

If you participate in this study you would be given a copy of this information sheet and a signed consent form to keep