**Table 1**.

Operational definitions of relapse used: dimensions and values.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Study No. | First author | Year published | Independent Variable | Operational definition | Lapse/ Relapse | Moment | Study Duration | Relapse rate measures |
| 1 | Zywiak | 2006 | Gender and relapse type | 1) 4 consecutive days of abstinences - Any drinking | No | PT | 12 | 62% |
| 2 | Wetzel | 2004 | Type of treatment  | 1) Any drinking2) Threshold (60 g) or 3) Hospitalization | No | PT | 12 | 49% / 77%46% / 76% |
| 3 | Maisto | 2003 | Operational definition | 1) 4 consecutive days of abstinences - Any drinking2) 4 consecutive days of abstinences - Threshold (4 standard drinks for females and 5 standard drinks for males)3) 4 consecutive days of abstinences - Any drinking - Drinking with problems4) 4 consecutive days of abstinences - Threshold (4 standard drinks for females and 5 standard drinks for males) - Drinking with problems | No | PT | 6 | 74%62%60%50% |
| 4 | Mertens | 2012 | Abstinence versus non-problematic drinking | 1) Threshold (5 standard drinks) - 4 drinking days per month - Use of other substance - Interpersonal and/or legal problems | Yes | PT | 132 |  51% |
| 5 | Bottlender | 2004 | Craving | 1) Any drinking (during treatment)2) More than three drinking episodes of more than 30g (females) and 60g (males) - Drinking lasting more than a week –- Drinking problems (after treatment) | Yes | T/PT | 12 | 31% / 16% |
| 6 | Witteman | 2015 | Craving | 1) Any drinking2) Threshold (6 standard drinks)3) Problematic drinking (determined by participants) | No | PT | 3 | 47% / 66%25% / 40%29% / 43% |
| 7 | Estopiñan | 2009 | Treatment  | 1) Threshold (6 standard drinks) or 2) More than 5 drinking episodes in a week | Yes | T/PT | 12 | 7% / 14%\*\*30% / 60% |
| 8 | Moss | 2005 | Treatment versus natural recuperation  | 1) Threshold (3 ounces) - Alcohol intoxication - Drinking problems | No | PT | 192 | 38%\*\*57% |
| 9 | Bennett | 2005 | Relapse prevention training | 1) Any drinking2) Threshold (9 standard drinks) - 3 consecutive drinking episodes | No | PT | 12 | 69%\*\*83%55%\*\*74% |
| 10 | Demirbas | 2012 | Problem solving  | 1) Any drinking - 3 consecutive drinking episodes | No | PT | 6 | 57% |
| 11 | Mueller | 2007 | Self-help group | 1) Any drinking | No | PT | 12 | 14% / 40% / 56% / 38% /\*\*29% / 43% / 50% / 41% |
| 12 | Feeney  | 2002 | Type of treatment | 1) Any drinking or 2) Withdrew from treatment without advising  | No | T  | 3 | 62%\*\*86% |
| 13 | Martinez | 2012 | Coping strategies | 1) Threshold (determined by participants) | No | T/PT | 6 | 22% |
| 14 | Papachristou | 2014 | Craving - Impulsivity | 1) Any drinking - 2 drinking episodes | Yes | PT | 3 | 0% |
| 15 | Vielva | 2001 | Risk factors | 1) Any drinking | No | PT | 6 | 42% |
| 16 | Allsop | 2000 | Risk factors | 1) Threshold (31 standard drinks) – Consumption in 3 days | Yes | PT | 12 | 70% |
| 17 | Strowig | 2000 | Risk factors | 1) Any drinking | No | PT | 12 | 46% |
| 18 | Neto | 2008 | Type of treatment | 1) Any drinking | No | PT | 6 | - |

Notes:

\* Different outcomes were recorded, but not necessarily because of a lapse/relapse distinction.

\*\* In those studies that compared two treatments, the relapse rate is described in a second line.

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| Table 2Studies that reported at group level some alcohol drinking dimensions before treatment  |
| Study | Drinking Episode (Frequency) | Amount of alcohol (Mean or maximum value) | Negative consequences | Time drinking |
| Wetzel et al.  | Yes | Yes | - | - |
| Mertens et al. | - | - | Yes | Yes |
| Bottlender et al.  | - | Yes | - | - |
| Witteman et al.  | Yes | Yes | - | - |
| Moss et al.  | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Bennett et al.  | Yes | - | - | Yes |
| Feeney et al.  | - | Yes | - | - |





