THE FRENCH EXPERIENCE IN PREPARING AN ALCOHOL INTERLOCK PROGRAM

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www.preventionroutiere.asso.fr
Consumption per capita:
Liters/head per annum 1 gll = 3.785 l.

Burton
Dublin
London
Lille
Leuven
Jupille

(1987)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>E.U countries</th>
<th>Cell phone regulation</th>
<th>Speed limitation (km/h)</th>
<th>BAC g/l</th>
<th>Points-system driving licence</th>
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* Advised.
** 0.1 : for new drivers (less than a 2 years experience), bus drivers, HGV drivers (> 7 t), tractors and moped aged less than 20 y.o.
Proportion of drivers who have been checked for alcohol over the last three years.
SARTRE 2004

Source ETSC
Mains traffic safety strategies in drinkdriving

• Born in the sixties from the knowledge of those days:
• The « Grand Rapids studies» of Robert Borkenstein as a base for level of blood alcohol and accident risk (0,8 g/l at that time)
• Their extension later justified the lowering of legal limits to values not corresponding anymore to an impairment level, but to a relative risk of accident, and also not linked with a higher risk or to clinical signs of addiction.
• Young drivers as target of prevention campaigns and and specific legislation or regulation including lower limits
The current model for drink driving

- Model purely behavioural similar to speed: frequency of controls and strong sanctions, moderated by the educational effect of demeritus point system are supposed to change the drivers’ behaviour.
- The sanction is also given to frighten the other drivers.
- This model is not so efficient for alcohol:
  - Addiction to alcohol in certain drivers makes inconsistent the voluntary control of their alcohol consumption.
  - The lost of the control of inhibition due to the alcohol level disturbs driver’s self evaluation, bringing him to underestimate the risk and overestimate his ability to drive.
- Notion of hard core drink driver resistant to such policies.
How to reach the lowest part of the iceberg

- Impairment
  - Random Breath Test
    - Alcohol legal limit
      - 0.8 g/l
      - 0.5 g/l

- Alcohol Interlock
ALCOHOL RELATED OFFENCES
ART L234-1 PENAL CODE:

• Sanctions in France
  • Fine up to 4500 €,
  • Jail up to 2 years,

• Additional sanctions:
  • Suspension up to 3 years,
  • Cancellation,
  • « fine per day or jail »
  • Work for community services
  • Forbidden to drive no licensed cars (small cars, scooters)
  • Training course.
  • New law fall 2010 (LOPPSI):
    • vehicle sanction (mandatory if recidivism),
    • And alcohol ignition interlock (up to 5 years),
    • or alcohol interlock program (6 months to 3 years).
More than 10 studies demonstrate a 64% reduction rate of recidivism with Alcohol Interlocks (programs)

Black line is non-interlock control groups for each study

re-arrest relative to control

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100% 120% 140%

During Interlock After Interlock

1 OH 2 OR 3 NC 4 AB 5 WV 6 MD 7 AB 8 QC 9 IL 10 NM
What is an interlock program?

- A tool to protect society (during installation) ?
- A social punishment ?
- A new kind of fine ?
- A way to control alcohol complete abstinence ?
- A way to change behavior ?
- A way to keep the social insertion ?
The points to be discussed

- Installation or program?
- Incapacitation or rehabilitation?
- Duration (flexible, different levels of programs)?
- What kind of follow up?
- Who will manage (justice, administration, provider, support structure (NPNG like PR)?
- The technical points?
Alcohol Interlocks for which drivers? Simple dry installation (DI) or program (P)?

- Recidivists ................................................................. P+++  
- High BAL ................................................................. P++  
- High risk drivers...................................................... P+++  
- First offenders ......................................................... P+  
- Drivers’ fitness (even non offender)......................... P+  
- Commercial (buses, dangerous goods)..................... DI  
- Special groups (insurance companies)..................... DI  
- Voluntary or mandatory in all vehicles..................... DI
Interest of Alcohol Interlocks

• General interest:
  • A kind of protection against drink driving
  • A 60 to 75% reduction of recidivism

• Interest for the driver
  • A protection of the social and professional life
  • A long term behavioral monitoring
  • A change in the relation to alcohol
Positive detections / tests

Only from Monday to Friday

0800 – maximum nb of positive detections
17 00 – maximum nb of tests

Quebec Alberta Texas

Hour of Day

Quebec All Tests
Quebec Tests ≥ .02%
Alberta All Tests
Alberta Tests ≥ .02
Texas All Tests
TX tests > .02%
• Control of drink driving
• Or control of drinking...
• Which targets? which tools?
Which interlock programs?

- "dry" installation: no interest, left everywhere, high risk of violation, circumvention, liability of magistrates

- "Light programs": 6 months to 1 year, alternative or additional sanctions, with simple monitoring and educational program

- "medium programs": 1 to 2 years, additional sanction, with more monitoring (bio markers, medical follow up) and education

- "heavy programs": 2 to 5 years, or permanent, with support, heavy monitoring, control of alcohol consumption, even out of driving situation, medical and biological follow up
Permanent Monitoring of alcohol level

Alternative if total abstinence is required

• Permanent access to online data
• Permanent transdermal detection

Merci pour votre attention