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Letter to the Editor: Alcohol consumption in Turkey

An article entitled "A Cross Sectional Study on Consumption and Addiction of Alcohol" by Köksoy et al. [1] has been recently published in International Invention of Scientific Journal. In this interesting study, authors cited my previous work² about alcohol consumption in Turkey. What I have found bothersome here is that authors stated that "In a compilation made², it is claimed that the consumption of alcoholic beverages can be avoided by increasing the tax."

Let me clarify some misunderstandings about this statement:

- First of all, there is no shred of evidence that comes to mean that increasing tax would avoid the consumption of alcoholic beveragesin my work.² In the Abstract of my work I have stated that "consumption of alcoholic beverages in our country (in Turkey) changes due to the factors such as legislation, population, number of foreign tourists and taxation (price)."
- Second of all, my work was based on the registered consumption; however, unrecorded consumption of alcoholic beverages is a major problem in Turkey. It is my personal opinion that increasing tax in Turkey will never avoid the consumption of alcoholic beverages since registered consumption may be affected but unrecorded consumption will most probably increase.

I would like to thank Köksoy et al. [1] for their interesting study and for citing my work.

References

- 1) Köksoy S, Barutcu CD, Polat M (2019): A Cross Sectional Study on Consumption and Addiction of Alcohol. International Invention of Scientific Journal3(2): 474-477.
- 2) Buzrul S (2016): Türkiye'de Alkollü İçki Tüketimi (Alcohol Consumption in Turkey). Journal of Food and Health Science 2(3): 112-122 doi: 10.3153/JFHS16012