



Fungi in Woman's Gut Producing Alcohol Without Her Drinking

Description

A woman was repeatedly admitted to the emergency room with symptoms of drunkenness, including excessive sleepiness, slurred speech, and the smell of alcohol on her breath. However, she had not consumed any alcohol. It was later discovered that her gut microbes were fermenting carbohydrates and essentially making her drunk, a condition known as auto-brewery syndrome.

Despite not drinking due to religious beliefs, the woman was misdiagnosed with alcohol intoxication multiple times before doctors realized the true cause of her symptoms. Her history of recurrent urinary tract infections and frequent antibiotic use had led to an imbalance in her gut bacteria, allowing fungi to produce alcohol. This rare syndrome is difficult to diagnose, with fewer than 100 cases reported since its discovery in the 1940s.

Treatment for the woman included antifungal medication, a low-carb diet to deprive the fungi of sugar, probiotics to restore helpful bacteria in her gut, and narrow-spectrum antibiotics for UTIs. After following this regimen, her symptoms disappeared. Continued monitoring and controlled reintroduction of carbohydrates were recommended to prevent relapses.

The case highlights the importance of awareness of auto-brewery syndrome for accurate diagnosis and management, as it can have significant social, legal, and medical implications. This unusual medical condition serves as a reminder of the complexity of the human body and the importance of continued research and understanding in the field of medicine.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Drunkenness** // (noun): State of being intoxicated with alcohol.
2. **Auto-brewery Syndrome** // (noun): A medical condition where the body produces alcohol internally.
3. **Misdiagnosed** // (verb): To diagnose a condition incorrectly.
4. **Recurrent** // (adjective): Occurring repeatedly.
5. **Antifungal** // (adjective): Used to inhibit or destroy fungi.
6. **Probiotics** // (noun): Live bacteria and yeasts that are good for health especially the digestive system.

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)



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1. Which area is at risk of being entirely covered by water during a flood?
Option: Mountains
Option: Desert
Option: Valley
Option: Island
 2. What medical condition results in the body converting sugary foods into alcohol internally?
Option: Type 2 Diabetes
Option: Auto-brewery Syndrome
Option: Celiac Disease
Option: Asthma
 3. Which term refers to the quality of being correct or precise?
Option: Confidence
Option: Intuition
Option: Accuracy
Option: Guesswork
 4. What type of medication is used to treat fungal infections?
Option: Antibiotic
Option: Antiviral
Option: Antifungal
Option: Anti-inflammatory
 5. Which type of supplements contain live beneficial bacteria?
Option: Vitamins
Option: Probiotics
Option: Minerals
Option: Painkillers
 6. What term describes something about to happen soon?
Option: Finished
Option: Postponed
Option: Resolved
Option: Impending
 7. Which word describes something innovative and revolutionary?
Option: Traditional
Option: Outdated
Option: Groundbreaking
Option: Conventional



8. What is a traditional story that may or may not be based on reality?

- Option: Fact
- Option: Legend
- Option: Myth
- Option: Biography

9. Which term refers to a magical or medicinal potion believed to have powers?

- Option: Serum
- Option: Placebo
- Option: Elixir
- Option: Potion

10. Which device is used to conduct electricity between a nonmetallic part of a circuit?

- Option: Transistor
- Option: Fuse
- Option: Resistor
- Option: Electrode

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. _____ to his craft the artist spent hours every day perfecting his skills.

12. To avoid any _____ the judge recused himself from the case involving his cousin.

13. The organization launched several _____ to promote environmental sustainability.

14. The brain communicates through complex networks of _____ pathways.

15. A well-thought-out _____ is crucial for a successful marketing campaign.

16. _____ is the hard outer surface of teeth that protects them from damage.

17. The process of choosing a new leader through an _____ is a fundamental part of democracy.

18. A specialized doctor called a _____ interprets medical images like X-rays and MRIs.

19. The ability to remain calm under pressure is an _____ that many successful leaders



possess.

20. High-speed internet has greatly improved global _____ and communication.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. Intoxication caused by the consumption of alcohol.
22. When a medical condition is incorrectly identified by healthcare professionals.
23. An approximate calculation or assessment of something.
24. Thorough exhaustive and carefully detailed in approach.
25. Something that occurs repeatedly or is frequent in its appearance.
26. A stimulus that initiates a reaction response or chain of events.
27. A meeting or discussion to seek advice or exchange ideas.
28. Essential or influential in causing a desired outcome or process.
29. Preventive treatment to protect against a disease or condition.
30. Situations where a person's duties or interests may be at odds with each other.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Valley 2. Auto-brewery Syndrome 3. Accuracy 4. Antifungal 5. Probiotics 6. Impending 7. Groundbreaking 8. Myth 9. Elixir 10. Electrode

Gap-Fill: 11. Dedication 12. Conflict of Interest 13. Initiatives 14. Neural 15. Strategy 16. Enamel 17. Election 18. Radiologist 19. Attribute 20. Connectivity

Matching sentence: 1. Drunkness 2. Misdiagnosed 3. Estimate 4. Rigorous 5. Recurrent 6. Trigger 7. Consultation 8. Instrumental 9. Prophylaxis 10. Conflicts of Interest

CATEGORY

1. Health - LEVEL4

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