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Oral presentation Causes of alcoholism CH Laskaratos\*

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Alcoholism is related to excessive drinking. Studying the causes of the latter is actually studying the causes of the former. There is always a multiplicity of causes of excessive drinking that must be seen both in cross-section of time and longitudinally. These are:

- A. Excessive drinking for the drug effect.
- B. Excessive drinking for psychodynamic reasons
- C. Excess drinking and environmental influences
- D. Failure in controls
- E. Genetic influences
- F. Excessive Drinking as a circular process
- G. Burnt out causes and experiences which lie dormant

What must be immediately apparent is that if the individual's drinking can result from such a variety and interplay of influences that the treatment approach should also be focusing to all the above