

pecially homicides, suicides, injuries that are caused by alcohol-related accidents, and deaths from liver cirrhosis. Policymakers have increased taxes and considerably reduced access to tobacco products but have been woefully inadequate in pursuing supply-side measures for the control of alcohol. Cook argues that legislators must put alcohol control and taxation “back on the policy agenda.”

In compiling the evidence on alcohol control policies, Cook does not shy away from the need to justify the use of government power to alter the behavior of individual persons. He notes that in the case of tobacco, this justification rests on the demonstration that it causes harm to users and to others (in many cases, innocent bystanders); this is the “negative externalities” argument based on British philosopher John Stuart Mill’s “harm principle.” Cook scours the literature in this terrain and argues fervently that higher taxes on alcohol would improve health and safety and save lives and are thus justified.

If there are limitations to this thought-provoking and thorough book, they concern other types of financial incentives and a lack of international comparisons. Other types of financial incentives could include the use of commitment devices, offering the possibility of using extrinsic tools of motivation with intrinsic ones, such as modified forms of psychological counseling, motivational interviewing, motivational enhancement, and cognitive-behavioral therapy. A second area that deserves further attention is analysis of alcohol policies and excise taxes in some other countries, especially European countries. It would be worthwhile to examine whether the relatively low cost of alcohol in some European countries bolsters the main arguments of this book or whether other factors, such as social and cultural norms, may influence alcohol consumption as much as national and local taxes do. Such analyses could supplement the evidence from the United States that is presented in the book. Despite these limitations, *Paying the Tab* offers a wide-ranging historical and social scientific perspective on alcohol in the United States and argues that more must be done to control the consumption of alcohol.

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CORRECTIONS

Clinical Decisions: Management of Type 2 Diabetes; Treatment Option 3 — Add Exenatide Twice Daily (January 17, 2008;358:293-7). The third sentence of the second paragraph (page 296) should have read “These drugs also appear to inhibit gastric emptying and enhance satiety, leading to weight loss in a substantial number of patients,” rather than “These drugs also appear to enhance gastric emptying and satiety.” The text has been corrected on the *Journal’s* Web site at www.nejm.org.

Simvastatin with or without Ezetimibe in Familial Hypercholesterolemia (April 3, 2008;358:1431-43). In the list of authors’ affiliations (p. 1431), the affiliation for Daniel Gaudet should have read “Department of Medicine, Montreal University, Montreal (D.G.)” The article has been corrected at the *Journal’s* Web site at www.nejm.org.

Adjuvant Chemotherapy for Gastric Cancer with S-1, an Oral Fluoropyrimidine (November 1, 2007;357:1810-20). In Figure 1A (page 1816), the third entry for S-1 should have been 370 rather than 270. The figure has been corrected on the *Journal’s* Web site at www.nejm.org.

NOTICES

Notices submitted for publication should contain a mailing address and telephone number of a contact person or department. We regret that we are unable to publish all notices received. Notices also appear on the Journal’s Web site (www.nejm.org/meetings). The listings can be viewed in their entirety or searched by location, month, or key word.

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Contact Dr. A. Gorski, Polish Academy of Sciences, PKiN, 00901 Warsaw, Poland; or call (48) 22 6204553; or fax (48) 22 6204910; or e-mail agorski@ikp.pl; or see <http://www.pan.pl/english>.

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The conference will be held in Hong Kong, June 8–11. It is jointly sponsored by the Association of Chinese Geneticists in America and the Hong Kong Society of Medical Genetics.

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