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Drs. Blazer and Wu Reply

TO THE EDITOR: We appreciate the comments of Drs. Waszkiewicz and Szulc. They mention the public health concerns that we underscored in our article. We would like to address two of the issues they point out. First, the limitations of usual screening instruments, such as CAGE, could lead to missed cases of binge drinking in middle-aged and older adults. We do believe that one or two questions specifically directed to patients about multiple drinking during a short period of time may disclose binge drinking. Family members may also provide information, either spontaneously or when asked to further identify these cases. Second, the use of biomarkers is an interesting proposition. It should, as the authors suggest, be researched further. Yet in this era of cost containment, simple questioning of our patients remains the most effective and cost-effective means for identifying binge drinking.

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Reprints are not available; however, Letters to the Editor can be downloaded at http://ajp.psychiatryonline.org.

Correction

In the article "Overgeneralization of Conditioned Fear as a Pathogenic Marker of Panic Disorder" by Lissek et al. (published online November 16, 2009; doi: 10.1176/appi.ajp.2009.09030410), a data point was missing from one of the graphs in Figure 2. A corrected version of the article was posted on November 17, 2009. This change has been made for the article's print appearance in the January 2010 issue and for its online posting as part of that issue.

In the December 2009 Book Forum, the review of "Au Revoir to All That: Food, Wine, and the End of France" contained a parenthetical statement that the book's author, Michael Steinberger, left the publication Wine Spectator "under a cloud," suggesting that his employment with the publication was terminated. In December 2002, Mr. Steinberger wrote an article for Slate about the Wine Spectator's annual Top 100 issue to which the Spectator's editor took exception, resulting in an exchange of letters published by Slate. Previously, Mr. Steinberger had contributed two articles to Wine Spectator but was never employed on its staff.