Key word search performed in MEDLINE and PUBMED, complementary search performed in ERIC and CINAHL

Studies included for abstract review:  
\( n=44 \)

Excluded; the study was not published in English:  
\( n=4 \)

Excluded; the study was not performed on humans:  
\( n=2 \)

Excluded; the study was not designed to capture data on alcohol cessation (ex-drinkers) or did not distinguish between lifetime abstainers and former drinkers and/or did not investigate cancer of the liver:  
\( n=23 \)

Studies read in full:  
\( n=15 \)

Excluded; the study did not meet the search criteria:  
\( n=8 \)

Included; manual search of reference lists from studies read in full:  
\( n=4 \)

Included; complementary search performed using first 30 hits of Google Scholar and Google:  
\( n=0 \)

Studies included for review:  
\( n=11 \)