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## The Serious Dangers of Energy Drinks

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## **Caffeine:** A Serious Concern with Energy Drinks

Energy drinks are sold in >140 countries and are a \$9 billion/year industry. Now a <u>new study</u> has raised serious concerns about energy drinks, primarily due to the caffeine content.

- Research found that just 1 energy drink per day contains enough caffeine considered to be "dangerous" in 70% of children and 40% of teenagers (3 mg of caffeine per kilogram of body weight).
- In adults, 400 mg/day is considered safe, 1,000 mg/day is "toxic", >5,000 mg/day is "lethal".
- The FDA has a limit of 71 mg of caffein per 12 ounces of soda but <u>energy drinks can bypass this law because they claim to be "natural dietary supplements"!</u>
- These caffeine levels can produce health problems like headaches, fatigue, <u>heartbeat irregularities</u>, tremors, and anxiety also <u>SERIOUS</u> health problems like stroke, and seizures, and even <u>death</u>.
- In addition to the dangerous levels of caffeine, energy drinks contain many substances that are both unregulated and understudied that have caused drinks like Red Bull to be called "speed in a can," "liquid cocaine," and a "legal drug."

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