

Mongolians sip 'oxygen cocktails' to cope with smog

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| Notes & Cues: | <p><b>Article:</b></p> <p>Fed up with the smog in Mongolia’s capital, residents have resorted to sipping "lung" tea and "oxygen cocktails" in a desperate bid to protect themselves from pollution, despite health officials saying there is no evidence they work.</p> <p>Advertisements in Mongolia boast that "drinking just one oxygen cocktail is equal to a three-hour-walk in a lush forest".</p> <p>At the produce section of the State Department Store, blue cans of oxygen called "Life Is Air" are on sale for \$2, and promise to turn a glass of juice into a foamy, sweet "oxygen cocktail" after spraying some into a glass through a special straw.</p> <p>Other stores and pharmacies have oxygen cocktail machines that resemble coffee makers and can turn a juice into a frothy drink for \$1.</p> <p>Ulaanbaatar topped New Delhi and Beijing as the world’s most polluted capital in 2016, UNICEF said in a report warning of a health crisis that has put every child and pregnancy at risk. Cases of respiratory infections have nearly tripled and pneumonia is now the second leading cause of death for children under five. Worried parents have held protests to press the government to take action.</p> <p>But some businesses are cashing in, even though a WHO official says there is no evidence that such anti-smog products work.</p> |
| Summary:      |  |