

GLOSSARY OF TERMS



Term	Definition
12-Step Program	A group providing mutual support and fellowship for people recovering from addictive behaviors. The first 12-step program was Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), founded in 1935; an array of 12-step groups following a similar model have since emerged and are the most widely used mutual aid groups and steps for maintaining recovery recovery from alcohol and drug use disorders. It is not a form of treatment, and it is not to be confused with the treatment modality called Twelve-Step Facilitation.
Abstinence	Not using alcohol or drugs.
Addiction	The most severe form of <i>substance use disorder</i> , associated with compulsive or uncontrolled use of one or more substances. Addiction is a chronic brain disease that has the potential for both recurrence (relapse) and recovery.
Agonist	A chemical substance that binds to and activates certain receptors on cells, causing a biological response. Fentanyl and methadone are examples of opioid receptor agonists.
Antagonist	A chemical substance that binds to and blocks the activation of certain receptors on cells, preventing a biological response. Naloxone is an example of an opioid receptor antagonist.
Binge Drinking	For men, drinking 5 or more standard alcoholic drinks, and for women, 4 or more standard alcoholic drinks on the same occasion on at least 1 day in the past 30 days.
Case Management	A coordinated approach to delivering health care, substance use disorder treatment, mental health care, and social services. This approach links clients with appropriate services to address specific needs and goals.
Clinical Decision Support	A system that provides health care professionals, staff, patients, or other individuals with knowledge and person-specific information, intelligently filtered or presented at appropriate times, to enhance health and health care.
Clinical Trial	Any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of participants to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects on health outcomes.
Compulsivity	Repetitive behaviors in the face of adverse consequences, as well as repetitive behaviors that are inappropriate to a particular situation. People suffering from compulsions often recognize that the behaviors are harmful, but they nonetheless feel emotionally compelled to perform them. Doing so reduces tension, stress, or anxiety.

Term	Definition
Continuum of Care	An integrated system of care that guides and tracks a person over time through a comprehensive array of health services appropriate to the individual's need. A continuum of care may include prevention, early intervention, treatment, continuing care, and recovery support.
Cost-Benefit Study	A study that determines the economic worth of an intervention by quantifying its costs in monetary terms and comparing them with the benefits, also expressed in monetary terms. Total benefits divided by total costs is called a cost-benefit ratio. If the ratio is greater than 1, the benefits outweigh the costs.
Cost-Effectiveness Study	A comparative analysis of two or more interventions against their health and economic outcomes. These outcomes could be lives saved, illnesses prevented, or years of life gained.
Dependence	A state in which an organism only functions normally in the presence of a substance, experiencing physical disturbance when the substance is removed. A person can be dependent on a substance without being addicted, but dependence sometimes leads to addiction
Dissemination	The active distribution of evidence-based interventions (EBIs) to specific audiences, with the goal of increasing their adoption.
Drug Diversion	A medical and legal concept involving the transfer of any legally prescribed controlled substance from the person for whom it was prescribed to another person for any illicit use.
Fidelity	The extent to which an intervention is delivered as it was designed and intended to be delivered.
Gender	The social, cultural, or community designations of masculinity or femininity.
Health Care System	The World Health Organization defines a health care system as (1) all the activities whose primary purpose is to promote, restore, and/or maintain health, and (2) the people, institutions, and resources, arranged together in accordance with established policies, to improve the health of the population they serve. The health care system is made up of diverse health care organizations ranging from primary care, specialty substance use disorder treatment (including residential and outpatient settings), mental health care, infectious disease clinics, school clinics, community health centers, hospitals, emergency departments, and others.
Health Disparities	Preventable differences in the burden of disease or opportunities to achieve optimal health that are experienced by socially disadvantaged populations, defined by factors such as race or ethnicity, gender, education or income, disability, geographic location (e.g., rural or urban), or sexual orientation.
Heavy Drinking	Defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as consuming 8 or more drinks per week for women, and 15 or more drinks per week for men, and by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), for research purposes, as binge drinking on 5 or more days in the past 30 days.
Implementation	A specified set of activities designed to put policies and programs into practice.
Impulsivity	Inability to resist urges, deficits in delaying gratification, and unreflective decision-making. Impulsivity is a tendency to act without foresight or regard for consequences and to prioritize immediate rewards over long-term goals.
Inpatient Treatment	Intensive, 24-hour-a-day services delivered in a hospital setting.
Integration	The systematic coordination of general and behavioral health care. Integrating services for primary care, mental health, and substance use use-related problems together produces the best outcomes and provides the most effective approach for supporting whole-person health and wellness.

Term	Definition
Intervention	A professionally delivered program, service, or policy designed to prevent substance misuse (prevention intervention) or treat a substance use disorder (treatment intervention).
Learning Health Care System	As described by the IOM, a learning health care system is “designed to generate and apply the best evidence for the collaborative healthcare choices of each patient and provider; to drive the process of discovery as a natural outgrowth of patient care; and to ensure innovation, quality, safety, and value in health care.”
Longitudinal Study	A type of study in which data on a particular group of people are gathered repeatedly over a period of years or even decades.
Meaningful Use	Using certified EHR technology to improve quality, safety, efficiency, and reduce health disparities; engage patients and family; improve care coordination and population and public health; and maintain privacy and security of patient health information.
Negative Reinforcement	The process by which removal of a stimulus such as negative feelings or emotions increases the probability of a response like drug taking.
Net Economic Benefit	The value of total benefits minus total costs.
Neurobiology	The study of the anatomy, function, and diseases of the brain and nervous system.
Opioid Treatment Program (OTP)	SAMHSA-certified program, usually comprising a facility, staff, administration, patients, and services, that engages in supervised assessment and treatment, using methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone, of individuals who have opioid use disorders. An OTP can exist in a number of settings, including but not limited to intensive outpatient, residential, and hospital settings. Services may include medically supervised withdrawal and/or maintenance treatment, along with various levels of medical, psychiatric, psychosocial, and other types of supportive care.
Pharmacokinetics	What the body does to a drug after it has been taken, including how rapidly the drug is absorbed, broken down, and processed by the body.
Positive Reinforcement	The process by which presentation of a stimulus such as a drug increases the probability of a response like drug taking.
Prescription Drug Misuse	Use of a drug in any way a doctor did not direct an individual to use it.
Prevalence	The proportion of a population who have (or had) a specific characteristic—for example, an illness, condition, behavior, or risk factor— in a given time period.
Protective Factors	Factors that directly decrease the likelihood of substance use and behavioral health problems or reduce the impact of risk factors on behavioral health problems.
Public Health System	Defined as “all public, private, and voluntary entities that contribute to the delivery of essential public health services within a jurisdiction” and includes state and local public health agencies, public safety agencies, health care providers, human service and charity organizations, recreation and arts-related organizations, economic and philanthropic organizations, education and youth development organizations, and education and youth development organizations.
Quality-Adjusted Life Year (QALY)	A measure of the burden of disease used in economic evaluations of the value of health care interventions that accounts for both the years of life lived and the quality of life experienced during those years, relative to quality associated with perfect health.
Randomized Controlled Trial (RCT)	A clinical trial of an intervention in which people are randomly assigned either to a group receiving the intervention being studied or to a <i>control group</i> receiving a standard intervention, a placebo (a medicine with no therapeutic effect), or no intervention. At the end of the study, the results from the different groups are compared.

Term	Definition
Recovery	A process of change through which individuals improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential. Even individuals with severe and chronic substance use disorders can, with help, overcome their substance use disorder and regain health and social function. This is called remission. When those positive changes and values become part of a voluntarily adopted lifestyle, that is called “being in recovery”. Although abstinence from all substance misuse is a cardinal feature of a recovery lifestyle, it is not the only healthy, pro-social feature.
Relapse	The return to alcohol or drug use after a significant period of abstinence.
Remission	A medical term meaning that major disease symptoms are eliminated or diminished below a pre-determined, harmful level.
Residential Treatment	Intensive, 24-hour a day services delivered in settings other than a hospital.
Risk Factors	Factors that increase the likelihood of beginning substance use, of regular and harmful use, and of other behavioral health problems associated with use.
Sex	The biological and physiological characteristics that define human beings as female or male.
Standard Drink	Based on the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, a standard drink is defined as 12 fl. oz. of regular beer, 8-9 fl. oz. of malt liquor, 5 fl. oz. of table wine, or 1.5 fl. oz. of 80-proof distilled spirits. All of these drinks contain 14 grams (0.6 ounces) of pure alcohol.
Substance	A psychoactive compound with the potential to cause health and social problems, including substance use disorders (and their most severe manifestation, addiction).
Substance Misuse	The use of any substance in a manner, situation, amount or frequency that can cause harm to users or to those around them. For some substances or individuals, any use would constitute as misuse (e.g., under-age drinking, injection drug use).
Substance Misuse Problems or Consequences	Any health or social problem that results from substance misuse. Substance misuse problems or consequences may affect the substance user or those around them, and they may be acute (e.g., an argument or fight, a motor vehicle crash, an overdose) or chronic (e.g., a long-term substance-related medical, family, or employment problem, or chronic medical condition, such as various cancers, heart disease, and liver disease). These problems may occur at any age and are more likely to occur with greater frequency of substance misuse.
Substance Use	The use—even one time—of any substance.
Substance Use Disorders	A medical illness caused by repeated misuse of a substance or substances. According to the Fifth Edition of the <i>Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5)</i> , substance use disorders are characterized by clinically significant impairments in health, social function, and impaired control over substance use and are diagnosed through assessing cognitive, behavioral, and psychological symptoms. Substance use disorders range from mild to severe and from temporary to chronic. They typically develop gradually over time with repeated misuse, leading to changes in brain circuits governing incentive salience (the ability of substance-associated cues to trigger substance seeking), reward, stress, and executive functions like decision making and self-control. Note: Severe substance use disorders are commonly called <i>addictions</i> .
Substance Use Disorder Treatment	A service or set of services that may include medication, counseling, and other supportive services designed to enable an individual to reduce or eliminate alcohol and/or other drug use, address associated physical or mental health problems, and restore the patient to maximum functional ability.
Telehealth	The use of digital technologies such as electronic health records, mobile applications, telemedicine, and web-based tools to support the delivery of health care, health-related education, or other health-related services and functions.
Telemedicine	Two-way, real-time interactive communication between a patient and a physician or other health care professional at a distant site. Telemedicine is a subcategory of <i>telehealth</i> .



Term	Definition
Tolerance	Alteration of the body's responsiveness to alcohol or a drug such that higher doses are required to produce the same effect achieved during initial use.
Withdrawal	A set of symptoms that are experienced when discontinuing use of a substance to which a person has become dependent or addicted, which can include negative emotions such as stress, anxiety, or depression, as well as physical effects such as nausea, vomiting, muscle aches, and cramping, among others. Withdrawal symptoms often lead a person to use the substance again.
Wrap-Around Services	Wrap -around services are non-clinical services that facilitate patient engagement and retention in treatment as well as their ongoing recovery. This can include services to address patient needs related to transportation, employment, childcare, housing, legal and financial problems, among others.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS



Abbreviation	Definition
AA	Alcoholics Anonymous
ACC	Accountable Care Community
ACO	Accountable Care Organization
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ASAM	American Society of Addiction Medicine
ASI	Addiction Severity Index
AUDIT	Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test
BAC	Blood Alcohol Content
BASICS	Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students
BNST	Bed Nucleus of the Stria Terminalis
BRAIN	Brain Research through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies
CADCA	Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
CARA	Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act
CARPS	Computerized Alcohol-Related Problems Survey
CBT	Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
CCO	Coordinated Care Organization
CDC	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CeA	Central Nucleus of the Amygdala
CHIP	Children's Health Insurance Program
CIDI	Composite International Diagnostic Interview
CMCA	Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol
CMS	Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
CRF	Corticotropin-Releasing Factor
CSA	Controlled Substances Act
CTC	Communities That Care
DEA	Drug Enforcement Administration

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Definition
DSM-IV	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition
DSM-5	Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition
DUI	Driving Under the Influence
DS	Dorsal Striatum
EBI	Evidence-Based Interventions
EHR	Electronic Health Record
FASD	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
FBT	Family Behavior Therapy
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FQHC	Federally Qualified Health Center
GABA	Gamma-Aminobutyric Acid
HEDIS	Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set
HHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
HIPAA	Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRSA	Health Resources and Services Administration
ICCPUD	Interagency Coordinating Committee on the Prevention of Underage Drinking
IOM	Institute of Medicine, now known as the Health and Medicine Division of the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine
LGBT	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender
LST	Life Skills Training
MADD	Mothers Against Drunk Driving
MET	Motivational Enhancement Therapy
MHPAEA	Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008
MLDA	Minimum Legal Drinking Age
MRI	Magnetic Resonance Imaging
NA	Narcotics Anonymous
NAc	Nucleus Accumbens
NASPER	National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Act
NFP	Nurse-Family Partnership Program
NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
NIAAA	National Institute on National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
NIDA	National Institute on Drug Abuse
NIH	National Institutes of Health
NREPP	National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices
NSDUH	National Survey on Drug Use and Health
OTP	Opioid Treatment Program
PDMP	Prescription Drug Monitoring Program
PET	Positron Emission Tomography
PFC	Prefrontal Cortex
PRISM	Psychiatric Research Interview for Substance and Mental Disorders
PROSPER	PROMoting School-community-university Partnerships to Enhance Resilience

Abbreviation	Definition
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
QALY	Quality-Adjusted Life Year
RHC	Raising Healthy Children
RMC	Recovery Management Check-up
RSS	Recovery Support Services
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
SBI	Screening and Brief Intervention
SBIRT	Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment
SFP	Strengthening Families Program
SIM	State Innovation Models
SPA	State Plan Amendment
THC	Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol
USPSTF	U.S. Preventive Services Task Force
VTA	Ventral Tegmental Area