



ECHO IDAHO: **Veteran Care for Substance Use Disorders**

Alcohol Use and Levels of Care

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American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

Placement Criteria

Disclaimer

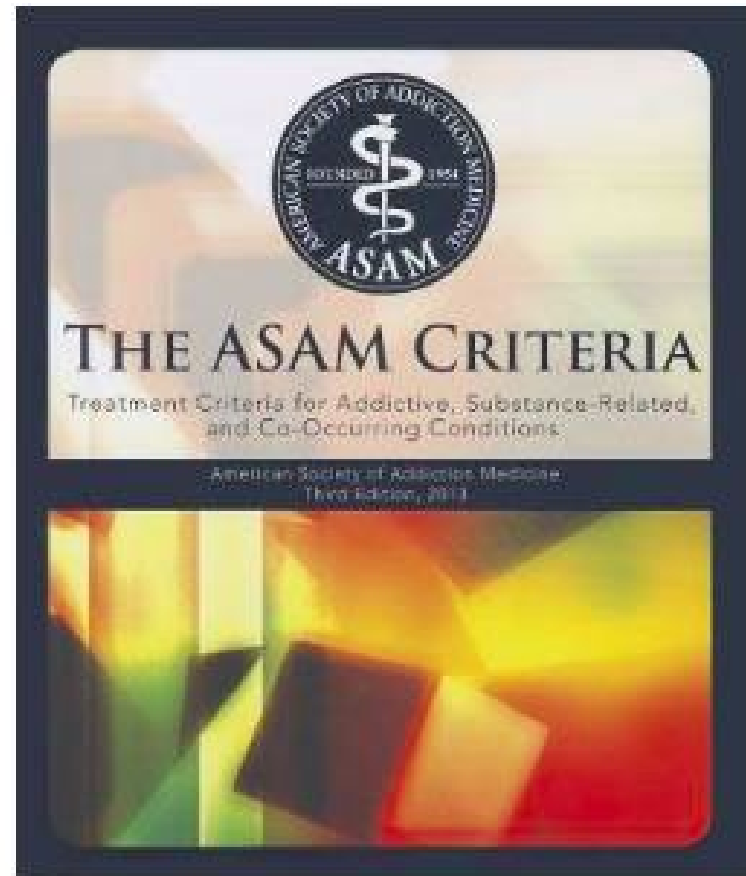
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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- ▶ To understand basic tenants of ASAM Patient Placement Criteria
- ▶ To recognize six dimensions used in the ASAM screening tool
- ▶ To learn ASAM Levels of Care
- ▶ To understand what treatment entails, given the level of care.

American Society of Addiction Medicine

Treatment Criteria for Addictive,
Substance-Related and Co-
Occurring Conditions



WHAT IS ASAM? Guidance for the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders (SUD)

A multidimensional group of criteria to address addiction

Six distinctive dimensions create a holistic, biopsychosocial treatment plan

Objective decisions for service planning, treatment and placement along the continuum of care

Principles of ASAM Placement Criteria

Clarifies
physician role in
care

Multidisciplinary
team-based
approach

Variable length
of treatment

Broad and
flexible
continuum of
care

Clear goals
focusing on
treatment
outcomes

Information that is Gathered During an ASAM Screening

History and current
SUD/Withdrawal
symptoms

Medical history

Mental Health history

Psychosocial/Spiritual
issues, Supports

Internal and External
Motivation/Relapse
Potential

Treatment
recommendations!

ASAM Basics: The Six Dimensions

DIMENSION 1-Acute Intoxication, Withdrawal Potential



DIMENSION 2-Biomedical Conditions, Complications



DIMENSION 3- Emotional, Behavioral, Cognitive

ASAM Basics: The six dimensions...continued

DIMENSION 4- Readiness to Change



DIMENSION 5- Relapse, Continued Use or Continued Problem Potential



DIMENSION 6- Recovery/Living Environment

Dimension 1

Acute Intoxication and Withdrawal Potential

Risks associated with client's current level of intoxication or withdrawal

Services needed to address current intoxication or withdrawal

History of severe withdrawal symptoms

Is ambulatory withdrawal safe to consider now?

Dimension 2

Biomedical Conditions and Concerns

Current physical illnesses that need attention

Chronic illnesses or conditions that need stabilization

Communicable diseases that impact others

What is underlying? Drinking due to pain or nightmares?

Dimension 3

Emotional, Behavioral or Cognitive Conditions & Complications

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Current psychological, behavioral, emotional or cognitive issues that need addressed now

Chronicity and severity of EBC conditions that may need stabilization

Patient's ability to cope with emotional, behavioral, or cognitive conditions and ADL's

Do symptoms appear to connect to the addiction or are they separate?

Dimension 4

Readiness to Change

Awareness of the relationship between substance use, behaviors and consequences

How ready, willing, or able the patient is to change

Readiness to change in other areas, i.e. Mental Health, Employment, Physical Health

The amount of control the patient feels they have over the services they receive

Dimension 5 Relapse, Continued Use, or Continued Problem Potential

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Immediate concerns for relapse

Current coping skills or lack thereof?

What treatment have they had? Did it help in the past?

Severity of problems/distress when not engaged in treatment

Dimension 6 Recovery / Living Environment

Concerns about personal safety or ability to engage treatment

Support system, financial, work or educational resources that contribute to recovery

External mandates that may enhance motivation for treatment

Do they own or rent, are they housed? Is someone drinking in home?

Levels of Intensity

- ▶ After each dimension we type in a number in order to rank each dimension's level of intensity. For Example:
- ▶ Dimension One through Four: 0-4. 0 is None, 1 is Low, 2 is Moderate, 3 is Moderate/High and 4 is High Intensity.
- ▶ For Dimensions Five and Six: 4 = High Intensity: Repeated treatment episodes. No coping skills for relapse/addiction problems. Substance use/behavior. Do they place self/others in imminent danger? 4a or 4b:
4a: No immediate action required
4b: Immediate action required

ASAM Levels of Care

Level 0.5: Early Intervention

Level 1: Outpatient Services

Level 2.1: Intensive Outpatient Treatment (IOP)

ASAM Levels of Care... Continued

**Physician
Involvement

Level 2.5: Partial Hospitalization**

Level 3.1: Clinically Managed LOW Intensity Residential

Level 3.3: Clinically Managed HIGH Intensity Residential**

Level 3.7: Medically MONITORED Intensive Inpatient Services**

Level 4: Medically MANAGED Intensive Inpatient Services**

Clinically MANAGED Inpatient Services: Level 3.1, 3.3, or 3.5 (Res)

ASAM Higher Levels of Care

Directed by non-physician addiction specialists (LCSW at BVAMC) NOT medical personnel

Primary problems are Emotional, Behavioral Cognitive, readiness to change, relapse, or recovery environment.

Intoxication, withdrawal, and biomedical concerns, if present, are safely manageable in a clinically managed service.

Medically MONITORED Inpatient Services: Level 3.7

ASAM Higher Levels of Care

- Provided by interdisciplinary staff under the direction of a licensed physician.
- Medical monitoring is provided through:
 - Mix of direct patient contact
 - Records review
 - Team meetings
 - 24-hour coverage by a physician and 24-hour nursing
 - Quality Assurance Program.

Medically MANAGED Intensive Inpatient Services: Level 4

ASAM
Higher
Levels of
Care

Daily medical care and 24-hour nursing

Trained and licensed physician provides diagnostic and treatment services directly, manages the provision of those services, or both.

Clinical Role in SUD Care, including Co- occurring

Consists of clinical providers specializing in Substance Use Disorders

- Licensed Clinical Social Workers and LCPC
- Psychologists
- Homeless Team Clinical Social Worker
- Veterans Justice Outreach Clinical Social Worker

Clinical staff provide

- Behavioral Health Therapy
- Case Management, Crisis Management
- SUD Screening
- SUD groups that are face to face and video, individual counseling sessions

Supportive services

- Recreational Therapy
- Employment Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Chaplain

Level 1.0 treatment consists of:

- ▶ **< 9 hours per week for Recovery or Motivational Enhancement Therapies**
- ▶ **ASSESSMENT and EDUCATIONAL services to individuals at risk of developing a SUD and/or behavioral problems surrounding substances**
- ▶ **Services may include brief intervention for DUI or SUD Programs**

Boise VA Medical Center offers OUTPATIENT SUD TREATMENT

Level 2.1: Intensive Outpatient (IOP) Treatment Consists of:

- ▶ **9–19 hours of weekly structured outpatient Substance Use Disorder programming:**
 - Individual and group psychotherapy, Educational Groups, Family Therapy
 - Motivational interviewing, enhancement and engagement strategies
 - Case Management
- ▶ **Interdisciplinary team of credentialed addiction treatment professionals**
 - Psychologists, social workers, addiction-credentialed physicians
 - Counselors, many of whom have cross-training to recognize co-occurring issues
- ▶ **At a minimum, this level provides the following support system:**
 - Medical, Psychological, Psychiatric, Laboratory, and Toxicology services within 24-hours by telephone or 72-hours in person

BOISE VA MEDICAL CENTER OFFERS IOP!

Substance Use Disorder services at BVAMC

- ▶ **Detoxification**

 - Medical Detox (Managed by Inpatient Medical Services)**

 - Ambulatory Detox (Managed by Outpatient SUD Treatment Team, Psychiatrist and SUD RN)**

- ▶ **Level .5**

 - Early Intervention: Education only**

- ▶ **Level 1**

 - Outpatient SUD Treatment**

- ▶ **Level 2.1**

 - Intensive Outpatient (IOP) Treatment**

- ▶ **Level 3.5 +**

 - Clinically Managed High Intensity Residential Services (SARRTP/RSAT)**



QUESTIONS??

REFERENCES

- ▶ Mee-Lee D, ed. The ASAM Criteria: Treatment Criteria for Addictive Substance-Related, and Co-Occurring Conditions. Chevy Chase, MD: American Society of Addiction Medicine, 2013.
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- ▶ Freedland T, MPS, LADC, Using the ASAM Framework for Co-Occurring Disorders, [Assessment Using the ASAM Dimensions \(umn.edu\)](#), Minnesota Center for Chemical and Mental Health