

The ASAM Criteria Crosswalk: Treatment Criteria for Addictive, Substance-Related, and Co-Occurring Conditions

Adult Levels of Care	DIMENSION 1: Acute Intoxication and/or Withdrawal Potential	DIMENSION 2: Biomedical Conditions and Complications	DIMENSION 3: Emotional, Behavioral, or Cognitive Conditions and Complications	DIMENSION 4: Readiness to Change	DIMENSION 5: Relapse, Continued Use, or Continued Problem Potential	DIMENSION 6: Recovery/Living Environment
LEVEL 0.5 Early Intervention	No withdrawal risk	None or very stable	None or very stable	Willing to explore how current alcohol, tobacco, other drug, or medication use, and/or high-risk behaviors may affect personal goals	Needs an understanding of, or skills to change, current alcohol, tobacco, other drug, or medication use patterns, and/or high risk behavior	Social support system or significant others increase the risk of personal conflict about alcohol, tobacco, and/or other drug use
OTP – LEVEL 1 Opioid Treatment Program	Physiologically dependent on opioids and requires OTP to prevent withdrawal	None or manageable with outpatient medical monitoring	None or manageable in an outpatient structured environment	Ready to change the negative effects of opioid use, but is not ready for total abstinence from illicit prescription or non-prescription drug use	At high risk of relapse or continued use without OTP and structured therapy to promote treatment progress	Recovery environment is supportive and/or the patient has skills to cope
LEVEL 1 Outpatient Services	Not experiencing significant withdrawal, or at minimal risk of severe withdrawal. Manageable at Level 1-WM (See withdrawal management criteria)	None or very stable, or is receiving concurrent medical monitoring	None or very stable, or is receiving concurrent mental health monitoring	Ready for recovery but needs motivating and monitoring strategies to strengthen readiness. Or needs ongoing monitoring and disease management. Or high severity in this dimension but not in other dimensions. Needs Level 1 motivational enhancement strategies	Able to maintain abstinence or control use and/or addictive behaviors and pursue recovery or motivational goals with minimal support	Recovery environment is supportive and/or the patient has skills to cope
LEVEL 2.1 Intensive Outpatient Services	Minimal risk of severe withdrawal, manageable at Level 2-WM (See withdrawal management criteria)	None or not a distraction from treatment. Such problems are manageable at Level 2.1	Mild severity, with potential to distract from recovery; needs monitoring	Has variable engagement in treatment, ambivalence, or a lack of awareness of the substance use or mental health problem, and requires a structured program several times a week to promote progress through the stages of change	Intensification of addiction or mental health symptoms indicate a high likelihood of relapse or continued use or continued problems without close monitoring and support several times a week	Recovery environment is not supportive, but with structure and support, the patient can cope
LEVEL 2.5 Partial Hospitalization Services	Moderate risk of severe withdrawal manageable at Level 2-WM (See withdrawal management criteria)	None or not sufficient to distract from treatment. Such problems are manageable at Level 2.5	Mild to moderate severity, with potential to distract from recovery; needs stabilization	Has poor engagement in treatment, significant ambivalence, or a lack of awareness of substance use or mental health problem, requiring a near-daily structured program or intensive engagement services to promote progress through the stages of change	Intensification of addiction or mental health symptoms, despite active participate in a Level 1 or 2.1 program, indicates a high likelihood of relapse or continued use or continued problems without near-daily monitoring and support	Recovery environment is not supportive, but with structure and support and relief from the home environment, the patient can cope
LEVEL 3.1 Clinically Managed Low-Intensity Residential Services	No withdrawal risk, or minimal or stable withdrawal. Concurrently receiving Level 1-WM (minimal) or Level 2-WM (moderate) services (See withdrawal management criteria)	None or stable, or receiving concurrent medical monitoring	None or minimal; not distracting to recovery. If stable, a co-occurring enhanced program is required	Open to recovery, but needs a structured environment to maintain therapeutic gains	Understands relapse but needs structure to maintain therapeutic gains	Environment is dangerous, but recovery is achievable if Level 3.1 24-hour structure is available
LEVEL 3.3 Clinically Managed Population-Specific High-Intensity Residential Services	At minimal risk of severe withdrawal. If withdrawal is present, manageable at Level 3.2-WM (See withdrawal management criteria)	None or stable, or receiving concurrent medical monitoring	Mild to moderate severity; needs structure to focus on recovery. Treatment should be designed to address significant cognitive deficits. If stable, a co-occurring capable program is appropriate. If not, a co-occurring enhanced program is required.	Has little awareness and needs interventions available only at Level 3.3 to engage and stay in treatment. If there is high severity in Dimension 4 but not in any other dimension, motivational enhancement strategies should be provided in Level 1	Has little awareness and needs interventions available only at Level 3.3 to prevent continued use, with imminent dangerous consequences, because of cognitive deficits or comparable dysfunction	Environment is dangerous and patient needs 24-hour structure to learn to cope
LEVEL 3.5 Clinically Managed High-Intensity Residential Services	At minimal risk of severe withdrawal. If withdrawal is present, manageable at Level 3.2-WM (See withdrawal management criteria)	None or stable, or receiving concurrent medical monitoring	Demonstrates repeated inability to control impulses, or unstable and dangerous signs/symptoms require stabilization. Other functional deficits require stabilization and a 24-hour setting to prepare for community integration and continuing care. A co-occurring enhanced setting is required for those with severe and chronic mental illness	Has marked difficulty with, or opposition to, treatment, with dangerous consequences. If there is high severity in Dimension 4 but not in any other dimension, motivational enhancement strategies should be provided in Level 1	Has no recognition of the skills needed to prevent continued use, with imminently dangerous consequences	Environment is dangerous and the patient lacks skills to cope outside of a highly structured 24-hour setting
LEVEL 3.7 Medically Monitored Intensive Inpatient Services	At high risk of withdrawal, but manageable at Level 3.7-WM and does not require the full resources of a licensed hospital (See withdrawal management criteria)	Requires 24-hour medical monitoring but not intensive treatment	Moderate severity; needs a 24-hour structured setting. If the patient has a co-occurring mental disorder, requires concurrent mental health services in a medically monitored setting	Low interest in treatment and impulse control is poor, despite negative consequences; needs motivating strategies only safely available in a 24-hour structured setting. If there is high severity in Dimension 4 but not in any other dimension, motivational enhancement strategies should be provided in Level 1	Unable to control use, with imminently dangerous consequences, despite active participation at less intensive levels of care	Environment is dangerous and the patient lacks skills to cope outside of a highly structured 24-hour setting
LEVEL 4 Medically Managed Intensive Inpatient Services	At high risk of withdrawal and requires Level 4-WM and the full resources of a licensed hospital (See withdrawal management criteria)	Requires 24-hour medical and nursing care and the full resources of a licensed hospital	Because of severe and unstable problems, requires 24-hour psychiatric care with concomitant addiction treatment (co-occurring enhanced)	Problems in this dimension do not qualify the patient for Level 4 services. If the patient's only severity is in Dimension 4, 5, and/or 6 without high severity in Dimensions 1, 2, and/or 3, then the patient does not qualify for Level 4	Problems in this dimension do not qualify the patient for Level 4 services. See further explanation in Dimension 4	Problems in this dimension do not qualify the patient for Level 4 services. See further explanation in Dimension 4