

## Glossary of Terms

Below is a list of addiction related terms often used by medical and mental health professionals.



**Addiction** – physical dependence on a substance of abuse. Inability to cease use of a substance without experiencing withdrawal symptoms. Sometimes used interchangeably with the term substance dependence. (1)

**Co-Prescribing** – prescribing naloxone together with an opioid for those considered at risk for overdosing. (2)

**Detoxification** – a clearing of toxins from the body. The medical and biopsychosocial procedure that assists a person who is dependent on one or more substances to withdraw from dependence on all substances of abuse. (1)

**Intervention** – encompasses the specific treatment strategies, therapies, or techniques that are used to treat one or more disorders. (1)

**Naloxone** – Naloxone is an FDA-approved medication that can save a person’s life when administered during an opioid overdose. Naloxone reverses the effects of opioids, such as stopped breathing or slowed breathing. (2)

**Opioid** – a type of depressant drug that diminishes pain and central nervous system activity. Prescription opioids include morphine, meperidine (Demerol), methadone, codeine, and various opioid drugs for coughing and pain. Illicit opioids include heroin, fentanyl and carfentanil. (1)

**Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)** – defined as a problematic pattern of opioid use leading to clinically significant impairment or distress. (1)

**Overdose Reversal** – the use of naloxone (Narcan) or other medical intervention to reverse respiratory depression, caused by opioids that would otherwise have been harmful or fatal. (2)

**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.

**Referral** – a process for facilitating client access to specialized treatments and services through linkage with, or directing clients to, agencies that can meet their needs. For COD, referrals frequently made for detoxification, assessment, special treatment, and medications. (1)

**Screening** – a formal process of testing to determine whether a client warrants further attention at the current time for a particular disorder and, in this context, the possibility of a co-occurring substance disorder. (1)

**Substance Use Disorders (SUD)** – a class of substance-related disorders that includes both substance abuse and substance dependence. (1)

**Treatment** – the use of any planned, intentional intervention in the health, behavior, persona and/or family life of an individual suffering from a substance use disorder designed to enable the affected individual to achieve and maintain sobriety, physical and mental health and a maximum functional ability. (1)

## References:

- (1) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders. Rockville (MD): Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (2005). Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) Series, No. 42.
- (2) U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). (2018). HHS recommends prescribing and co-prescribing naloxone to patients at high-risk for an opioid overdose.

View these resources at:

<https://neohospitals.org/Northeast-Ohio-Hospital-Opioid-Consortium/Naloxone-Toolkit>