

DSM-5 Substance Use Disorder Criteria

The following are abbreviated descriptions of the 11 symptoms of substance use disorder used to determine a diagnosis per the new DSM-5:

1. Missing work or school
2. Using in hazardous situations
3. Using despite social or personal problems
4. Craving for the substance
5. Build up of tolerance
6. Withdrawal when trying to quit
7. Using more than intended
8. Trying to quit without success
9. Increased substance-seeking behavior
10. Interference with important activities
11. Continued use despite health problems

The craving criteria (#4 above) replaced a previous symptom of reoccurring legal problems, which the APA eliminated because of "cultural considerations that make the criteria difficult to apply internationally."

Under the new manual, there will be one diagnosis of substance use disorder, but with the designation of mild, moderate or severe. The diagnosis will be based on whether or not the person exhibits any of 11 different symptoms noted above.

The severity of the substance use disorder will be graded by the number of criteria the person meets.

- 0-1: No diagnosis
- 2-3: **Mild** Substance Use Disorder
- 4-5: **Moderate** Substance Use Disorder
- 6+: **Severe** Substance Use Disorder