

IMMEDIATE NEED PROFILE

Work through the six dimensions, checking “yes” or “no” to these questions and obtaining from the patient just sufficient data to assess for immediate needs.

DIMENSION 1: Acute Intoxication and/or Withdrawal Potential

- a. Currently having severe, life-threatening, and/or similar withdrawal symptoms? ____No ____Yes

DIMENSION 2: Biomedical Conditions and Complications

- a. Any current, severe physical health problems (eg, bleeding from mouth or rectum in past 24 hours; recent, unstable hypertension; recent, severe pain in chest, abdomen, head; significant problems in balance, gait, sensory, or motor abilities not related to intoxication)? ____No ____Yes

DIMENSION 3: Emotional, Behavioral, or Cognitive Conditions and Complications

- a. Imminent danger of harming self or someone else (eg, suicidal ideation with intent, plan, and means to succeed; homicidal or violent ideation; impulses and uncertainty about ability to control impulses, with means to act on)?
____No ____Yes
- b. Unable to function in activities of daily living or care for self with imminent, dangerous consequences (eg, unable to bathe, feed, groom, and care for self due to psychosis, organicity, or uncontrolled intoxication with threat to imminent safety of self or others as regards death or severe injury)?
____No ____Yes

DIMENSION 4: Readiness to Change

- a. Does patient appear to need alcohol or other drug treatment/recovery and/or mental health treatment, but ambivalent or feels it unnecessary (eg, severe addiction, but patient feels controlled use still OK; psychotic, but blames a conspiracy)? ____No ____Yes
- b. Patient has been coerced, mandated, or required to have assessment and/or treatment by mental health court or criminal justice system, health or social services, work or school, or family or significant other? ____No ____Yes

DIMENSION 5: Relapse, Continued Use, or Continued Problem Potential

- a. Is patient currently under the influence and/or acutely psychotic, manic, suicidal? ____No ____Yes
- b. Is patient likely to continue to use or have active, acute symptoms in an imminently dangerous manner, without immediate secure placement? ____No ____Yes
- c. Is patient's most troubling presenting problem(s) that brings the patient for assessment dangerous to self or others? (See examples in Dimensions 1, 2, and 3) ____No ____Yes

DIMENSION 6: Recovery Environment

- a. Are there any dangerous family; significant others; living, work, or school situations threatening patient's safety, immediate well-being, and/or sobriety (eg, living with a drug dealer; physically abused by partner or significant other; homeless in freezing temperatures)? ____No ____Yes

KEY

“Yes” answers to questions **1, 2, and/or 3 require** that the patient immediately receive medical or psychiatric care for evaluation of need for acute, inpatient care.

“Yes” answers to questions **4a and b, or 4b alone, require** the patient to be seen for assessment within 48 hours, and preferably earlier, for motivational strategies, unless patient is imminently likely to walk out and needs a more structured intervention.

For a “yes” answer to question **5a**, assess further for need for immediate intervention (eg, taking keys of car away; having a relative/friend pick patient up if severely intoxicated and unsafe; evaluate need for immediate psychiatric intervention).

“Yes” answers to questions **5b, 5c, and/or 6, without any “yes” answer in questions 1, 2, or 3, require** that the patient be referred to a safe or supervised environment (eg, shelter, alternative safe living environment, or residential or subacute care setting, depending on level of severity and impulsivity).