

## **Definitions**

### **Definition of Children with a Serious Emotional Disturbance**

Pursuant to Section 1911(c) of the Public Health Service Act, children with a serious emotional disorder are:

- (1) from birth up to age 18, and
- (2) currently have, or at any time during the last year, had a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder of sufficient duration to meet diagnostic criteria specified within DSM-III-R. (Federal Register Volume 58 No. 96 published Thursday, May 20, 1993, pages 29422 through 29425).

### **Definition of Adults with a Serious Mental Illness**

Pursuant to Section 1912(c) of the federal Public Health Service Act, as amended by Public Law 102-321, "adults with a serious mental illness" are persons:

- (1) age 18 and over, and
- (2) who currently have, or at any time during the past year, had a diagnosable mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder of sufficient duration to meet diagnostic criteria specified within DSM-IV or their ICD-9-CM equivalent (and subsequent revisions) with the exception of DSM-IV "V" codes, substance use disorders, and developmental disorders which are excluded, unless they co-occur with another diagnosable serious mental illness, and
- (3) experience functional impairment which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. (Federal Register Volume 58 No. 96 published Thursday, May 20, 1993, pages 29422 through 29425).

### **Definition of Chronic Substance Use Disorders**

Researchers in the substance abuse field would define chronic substance use disorders by using the diagnostic codes from the *International Classification of Diseases, 9<sup>th</sup> Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-9-CM)*. An individual would be diagnosed as having alcohol, tobacco and/or drug abuse or dependence based on the presence of one or more of the following five ICD-9 diagnostic codes:

- 291, alcohol psychoses
- 292, drug psychoses
- 303, alcohol dependence syndrome
- 304, drug dependence
- 305, nondependent drug abuse

There are also ten additional ICD-9 diagnostic codes for medical illnesses specifically caused by alcohol and other drug use. These are:

- 425.5, alcoholic cardiomyopathy
- 535.3, alcoholic gastritis
- 571, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis
- 571.0, alcoholic fatty liver
- 571.1, acute alcoholic hepatitis
- 571.2, alcoholic cirrhosis of liver
- 571.3, alcoholic liver damage, unspecified
- 357.5, alcoholic polyneuropathy
- 357.6, polyneuropathy due to drugs
- 648.3, pregnancy complicated by drug dependence

### **Definition of Someone At-Risk for Later Substance Use Disorders**

There are well-known familial and psychosocial risk factors for developing later substance use disorders.

Genetics. The scientific literature has confirmed that alcoholism runs in families. Children of alcoholic parents are predisposed or at-risk for developing alcoholism. Men born to alcoholic fathers have a 25% increased risk of developing alcoholism; women, 14% increased risk.

Major psychiatric disorders. Being diagnosed with a major psychiatric disorder, (such as major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, dementia) increases an individual's risk for developing substance abuse. Individuals diagnosed with both a major psychiatric disorder and alcohol/drug dependence are also at increased risk for practicing risky sexual behaviors that places them at additional risk for contracting HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases.

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