

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Documentation Considerations

- Document the pattern:
 - Use
 - Abuse
 - Dependency
- Identify the substance (nicotine, alcohol, etc.)
- Specify if remission has been achieved
- Document associated psychological complications (delirium, psychosis, anxiety, sleep disorders, etc.)

Diagnosis Considerations

- Correctly distinguish abuse from dependence
- Select the appropriate code that reflects the correct substance
 - Alcohol
 - Opioid
 - Cannabis
 - Sedative
 - Stimulant
 - Hallucinogen
 - Inhalant
 - “Other”

Additional Considerations

- Document all
 - Successful or unsuccessful cessation
 - Weaning or decreasing dose attempts or rehab
- Identify impact on social, occupational or interpersonal relationships
- Document tolerance and/or withdrawal symptoms (physical or psychological)
- Interpret results of “positive” alcohol/drug screenings

