What’s New in The ASAM Criteria?

www.ASAMcriteria.org

This product is supported by Florida Department of Children and Families Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program Office funding.
Around 1989, National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP) and American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) assemble taskforce to integrate two existing admission/continued stay criteria sets:

- The Cleveland Criteria
- The NAATP Criteria

NAATP decided to relinquish any ownership/branding of the Criteria
Historical and current development of The ASAM Criteria

- Collaborative consensus process
- Experienced clinical experts and researchers as Editors
- Coalition of stakeholders (Coalition for National Clinical Criteria, est. 1992) — ASAM and addiction physicians not the sole stakeholders
Goal of *The ASAM Criteria*:

To unify the addiction field around a single set of criteria
ASAM Criteria Background

- Previous Editions
Upcoming Edition:

- *The ASAM Criteria – Treatment Criteria for Addictive, Substance-Related, and Co-Occurring Conditions*
- Released in Fall 2013
- Editor-in-Chief: David Mee-Lee, MD
What are the ASAM Criteria?
- Guidelines for assessment, service planning, placement, continued stay, and discharge
- Framework for multidimensional patient assessment
What are the ASAM Criteria?

- Description of levels of care (service continuum)
- Algorithm for determining appropriate Intensity of Service based on assessment of patient’s Severity of Illness (IS/SI)
Underlying Concepts of The ASAM Criteria:
Individualized, Clinically-Driven Treatment

Patient/Participant Assessment

BIOPSYCHOSOCIAL Dimensions

Progress
Severity of Illness/LOF

Plan
INTENSITY OF SERVICE — Modalities and Levels of Service

Problems/Priorities
Severity of Illness/LOF
Assessment of Biopsychosocial Severity and Level of Function

1. Acute Intoxication and/or Withdrawal Potential
2. Biomedical conditions and complications
3. Emotional/Behavioral/Cognitive conditions and complications
Assessment of Biopsychosocial Severity and Level of Function

4. Readiness to Change
5. Relapse/Continued Use/Continued Problem potential
6. Recovery Environment
Levels of Service

1. Outpatient Treatment
2. Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization
3. Residential/Inpatient Treatment
4. Medically-Managed Intensive Inpatient Treatment
More levels of care within each of the broad levels

Changes from Roman numerals to Arabic numerals, e.g.:

- “Level I” becomes “Level 1”
- “Level II.1” becomes “Level 2.1”
- “Level II.5” becomes “Level 2.5”
- “Level III.1” becomes “Level 3.1”
Criteria Revision Process and Principles

- Workgroup chairs and small committees developed drafts
- Extensive field review online with input from Steering Committee of the Coalition for National Clinical Criteria and others
Criteria Revision Process and Principles

- Release date of October 2013 at ASAM’s “State of the Art Conference” in Arlington, VA
- Criteria updated to reflect current science – impact on The ASAM Criteria Software
The six assessment dimensions

The overall levels of care (though not Roman numerals) for addiction management

The “decision rules,” which link Intensity of Service back to the Severity of Illness maintained except for some updates in Withdrawal Management (“Detox”)
Oversight and revision of the criteria is a collaborative process between ASAM leadership and the Steering Committee of the Coalition for National Clinical Criteria (CNCC)
What’s Not New in *The ASAM Criteria*


- The coalition represents major stakeholders in addiction treatment and has been meeting regularly since the development of the first ASAM *Patient Placement Criteria* in 1991.
What’s Not New in The ASAM Criteria


- Coalition addresses feedback and ensures that the Criteria adequately serves and supports medical professionals, employers, purchasers, and providers of care in both the public and private sectors.
What’s New in *The ASAM Criteria*?

- New Title: *The ASAM Criteria -- Treatment Criteria for Addictive, Substance-Related, and Co-Occurring Conditions*
- Shift away from “placement” criteria to “treatment” criteria: it’s more than just “placement”
What’s New in *The ASAM Criteria*?

- Diagnostic Admission Criteria terminology changed to be compatible with *DSM-5*
- Section on working with managed care
What’s New in *The ASAM Criteria*?

- Table of contents
  - Re-ordered to be more user-friendly
  - Follows the flow from Historical Foundations to Guiding Principles to Assessment, Service Planning, and Placement decisions
What’s New in The ASAM Criteria?

- Adolescent Criteria
  - No longer separate/stand-alone
  - Consolidated Adult and Adolescent content to minimize redundancy while preserving adolescent-specific content
Appendices
  - Withdrawal Management instruments
  - Dimension 5 constructs
  - Glossary
What’s New in *The ASAM Criteria*?

- **Withdrawal Management**
  - The wording in the Levels of Care
  - Former section “Detoxification” becomes “Withdrawal Management”
  - Levels are now called WM-1, WM-2, WM-3, and WM-4
  - New approaches described to support increased use of less intensive levels of care for safe/effective management of withdrawal
 Withdrawal Management

- New approaches described to support increased use of less intensive levels of care for safe/effective management of withdrawal
- A broader range of severity of withdrawal syndromes is discussed in The Criteria as being able to be safely and appropriately managed on an outpatient basis.
What’s New in *The ASAM Criteria*?

- **Withdrawal Management**
  - A Risk Rating Assessment Format is used in the first part of chapter to help understand how to link severity, function, and service needs when determining treatment plans and level of care.
  - In the latter part of the chapter, updated *PPC-2R* criteria, linked to the algebraic “decision rules” of *The ASAM Criteria Software*, appear.
Updated/revised terminology

Contemporary, strength-based, recovery-oriented:

• “dual diagnosis” becomes “co-occurring disorders”
• “inappropriate use of substances” becomes “high risk use of substances”
What’s New in *The ASAM Criteria*?

- Opioid use disorder specialized services
  - Opioid Maintenance Therapy” (OMT) becomes “Opioid Treatment Services” (OTS)
    - Opioid antagonist medications
    - Opioid agonist medications
    - Their use in OTPs (regulated “Opioid Treatment Programs”) or in office-based opioid treatment (OBOT)
New Content and Sections

- Additional text to improve application to address addiction treatment for Special Populations:
  - Older Adults
  - Persons in Safety Sensitive Occupations
  - Parents with Children and Pregnant Women
  - Persons in the Criminal Justice System (CJS)
New Content and Sections

- Additional text to address treatment of conditions not traditionally included in specialty addiction treatment services:
  - Tobacco Use Disorder
  - Gambling Disorder
Revision of the text to address emerging issues:

- Healthcare Reform and the integration of addiction treatment into general medical care
- The role of physicians on the care team, addiction specialist physicians in particular (addiction medicine physicians, addiction psychiatrists)
ASAM’s New Definition of Addiction

- Implications for Substance Use Disorders and other Addictive Disorders
  - “The pathological pursuit of reward or relief”
  - Involves alcohol, tobacco, and/or other substance use
  - Also involves addictive behaviors
  - “Addiction involving alcohol, tobacco, other substances and gambling”
The ASAM Criteria Software

- *The ASAM Criteria* book and *The ASAM Criteria Software* are companion text and application.
- The text delineates the dimensions, levels of care, and decision rules that comprise *The ASAM Criteria*. 
The ASAM Criteria Software

- The software provides an approved structured interview to guide adult assessment and calculate the complex decision tree to yield suggested levels of care, which are verified through the text.
The text and software are used in tandem:

- The text provides background and instruction for proper use of software
- The software enables comprehensive, standardized evaluation
The ASAM Criteria text is synchronized with The ASAM Criteria Software.

- Definitions and specifications are in the text, such that the dimensions, levels of care, and admissions “decision rules” serve as a reference manual for the software.
The ASAM Criteria Software

- The ASAM Criteria Software is undergoing nationwide open-source release by U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
For Patients
• Improves Patient Outcomes

For Payers
• Improved Patient Outcomes > Lower Long-Term Costs
• Standardizes prior approval process (utilization management)
• I.T. can facilitate/automate approval process (U.M.)
• Decreases expensive & unnecessary overtreatment
• Improves inter-rater reliability

For Providers
• Facilitates reimbursement process through fewer disputes, less administrative burden, & faster turnaround on payment
• Provides training to new counselors
• Generates sophisticated reports & analyses
Intuitive User Interface

Data visualization elements.

Have you had a significant period in which you experienced...(for the first two items ensure that it was not a direct result of drug or alcohol use)

Serious depression, the 'blues' or hopelessness?
- In your lifetime?
  - Not at all
  - Slightly
  - Moderately
  - Considerably
  - Extremely

- In the last month?
  - Not at all
  - Slightly
  - Moderately
  - Considerably
  - Extremely

- In the last 24 hours?
  - Not at all
  - Slightly
  - Moderately
  - Considerably
  - Extremely

Was this problem within the last 24 hours related to using drugs or alcohol?

A lack of interests, or inability to feel normal pleasure from activities?
- In your lifetime?
  - Not at all
  - Slightly
  - Moderately
  - Considerably
  - Extremely

- In the last month?
  - Not at all
  - Slightly
  - Moderately
  - Considerably
  - Extremely

Symptoms are likely related to active substance use or intoxication.
Enhanced Report

Dynamically driven report with **variable** content regions.
Using the Book and Software

- Effective, reliable treatment planning requires that both the text and software be used together
Contacts and Questions

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www.ASAMcriteria.org
The Change Companies® (TCC) was contracted by ASAM to publish and market *The ASAM Criteria*. The new edition will feature these tools to help readers locate material quickly:

- content-specific chapter tabs
- color, graphic illustrations, and icons
- cross-linking

A subscription web-based version will also release alongside the book in fall 2013.

More info: www.ASAMcriteria.org
Training and Resources

- New training model will be developed in collaboration with TCC
  - eLearning modules
  - onsite learning
  - consulting and coaching
- Resources co-developed with TCC
- www.ASAMcriteria.org
Resources from TCC: Understanding the Dimensions of Change – Client Journals

Creating an effective service plan

Understanding the Dimensions of Change

Dimension 2: Biomedical Conditions/Complications

Family history and healthy practices

Review with your change team

Dimension 2: Biomedical Conditions/Complications

The Change Companies®

www.changecompanies.net
Resources from TCC: Multidimensional Assessment eLearning Course

Multidimensional Assessment Course
Helping to implement the six dimensions of the American Society of Addiction Medicine’s Patient Placement Criteria

David Mee-Lee, M.D.
Chief Editor of the ASAM PPC-3R

An appropriate dimensional risk rating is determined for assessing:
- Only the participant’s independent needs and risks for the disorders
- Only the participant’s specific client groups and responses to treatment
- The various ways the client’s condition(s) and responses to treatment
- Only the participant’s needs and risks for the disorders

The Change Companies®
www.changecompanies.net
A new edition of **The ASAM Criteria** is coming this fall.

- Redesigned & updated content
- Applies the newest addiction science
- Compliant with **DSM-5**
- User-friendly functionality
- New topics on emerging areas of focus
- Population-specific sections

To learn more, visit: [www.ASAMcriteria.org](http://www.ASAMcriteria.org)
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