

Overall Goals and Objectives of Enhanced Skills Addiction Medicine Program

Medical Expert:

1. Conduct a comprehensive substance use assessment of a patient, including:
 - Completion of alcohol and drug history
 - Assessment for co-morbid psychiatric conditions
 - Identification of medical complications of substance use and other medical co-morbidities
 - Identification of psychosocial problems that may affect treatment and recovery
 - Laboratory investigations to assess substance use
 - Diagnosis of substance use and concurrent disorders
 - Development of a collaborative comprehensive care plan to treat the substance use disorder and concurrent medical and psychiatric conditions
 - Provision of consultations to primary care and other specialists
2. Provide counselling for individuals with SUD based on the principles of motivational interviewing, cognitive behavioral therapy, and harm reduction.
3. Provide both outpatient and inpatient medical management of withdrawal from alcohol and illicit substances.
4. Manage concurrent chronic pain and substance use disorders.
5. Initiate and monitor appropriate pharmacotherapy for substance use disorders such as anti-craving medication and opioid agonist therapy.

Communicator:

1. Establish professional relationships with patients and their families.
2. Work effectively as a member of an interdisciplinary team.
3. Use motivational interviewing techniques to engage patients with substance use disorders.
4. Apply principles of Trauma and Violence-informed care to use non-stigmatizing language and create non-judgmental, welcoming clinical interactions.

Collaborator:

1. Function effectively in an interdisciplinary team to provide high quality care to individuals with substance use disorders.

Leader:

1. Contribute to the improvement of health care delivery in teams, organizations, and systems.

Health Advocate:

1. Able to provide specialized addiction consultations to local health providers both within the hospital, primary care, public health and the local community
2. Advocate for those with substance use disorders within the health care system and within the community

Scholar:

1. Capable of teaching other physicians and students in the field of addiction medicine
2. Familiar with relevant research in the field of addiction medicine and remain current with new developments

Professional:

1. Committed to providing evidence-based treatment and treating patients ethically with dignity and respect.