

The ASAM Criteria - Key Concepts

The Six Dimensions of the ASAM Criteria

1. Acute Intoxication and/or Withdrawal Potential
 - Currently having severe, life-threatening and/or similar withdrawal symptoms
2. Biomedical Conditions and Complications
 - Any current, severe health problems
3. Emotional/Behavioral/Cognitive Conditions
 - Imminent danger of harming self or someone else?
 - Unable to function in activities of daily living or care for self with imminent, dangerous consequences
4. Readiness to Change
 - Ambivalent or feels treatment unnecessary
 - Coerced, mandated, required to have assessment and/or treatment by mental health court, criminal justice system etc.
5. Relapse/Continued Use/Continued Problem Potential
 - Currently under the influence and/or acutely psychotic, manic, suicidal
 - Continued use/problems imminently dangerous
6. Recovery Environment
 - Immediate threats to safety, well-being, sobriety

ASAM Criteria Levels of Care

Level 0.5 Early Intervention Services

Level 1 Outpatient Treatment

Level 2.1 Intensive Outpatient Treatment

Level 2.5 Partial Hospitalization

Level 3.1 Clinically-Managed, Low Intensity Residential Treatment

Level 3.3 Clinically Managed Population - Specific High Intensity Residential Treatment

Level 3.5 Clinically-Managed, Medium/High Intensity Residential Treatment

Level 3.7 Medically-Monitored Intensive Inpatient Treatment

Level 4 Medically-Managed Intensive Inpatient

Severity and Risk Ratings

Risk Rating	4	This rating would indicate issues of utmost severity . The patient would present with critical impairments in coping and functioning, with signs and symptoms, indicating an “imminent danger” concern.	High
	3	This rating would indicate a serious issue or difficulty coping within a given dimension. A patient presenting at this level of risk may be considered in or near “imminent danger”.	Moderate
	2	This rating would indicate moderate difficulty in functioning. However, even with moderate impairment, or somewhat persistent chronic issues, relevant skills, or support system may be present.	
	1	This rating would indicate a mildly difficult issue , or present minor signs and symptoms. Any existing chronic issues or problems would be able to be resolved in a short period of time.	Low
	0	This rating would indicate a non-issue or very low risk issue . The patient would present no current risk and any chronic issues would be mostly or entirely stable.	

Withdrawal Management Services for Dimension 1

- 1-WM** Ambulatory Withdrawal Management without Extended On-site Monitoring
- 2-WM** Ambulatory Withdrawal Management with Extended On-Site Monitoring
- 3.2-WM** Clinically-Managed Residential Withdrawal Management
- 3.7-WM** Medically-Monitored Inpatient Withdrawal Management
- 4-WM** Medically-Managed Inpatient Withdrawal Management