

How to recognize if someone may have a substance use disorder

If someone is taking a prescribed drug, these are indications that they are struggling:

- Taking the drug in larger amounts or for longer than intended.
- Wanting to stop or cut down from the drug but can't.
- Spending a lot of time using or trying to quit the drug.
- Having cravings or urges to use the drug.
- Continuing to use the drug, even when it causes problems in relationships.
- Using drugs again and again, even when it puts them in danger.
- Continuing to use drugs even while knowing that a physical or mental problem could have been caused or made worse by the drug.
- Taking more of the drug to achieve a high.
- Developing withdrawal symptoms that can only be relieved by the drug, such as nausea and vomiting, body shaking, or sweating.
- Doing risky or dangerous things while on the drug, such as driving or unsafe sex.

Source: [CFS Adult Dual Diagnosis Intensive Outpatient Program](#)