

# Substance use, abuse, and dependence

Documentation and coding: Individual & Family Plans

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**For coding education questions**, email [CignaHealthcareHCPEducation@CignaHealthcare.com](mailto:CignaHealthcareHCPEducation@CignaHealthcare.com).

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*The information that follows is designed to provide guidance for the documentation and coding of claims for your patients with a substance use disorder. It is not meant to replace your judgment when caring for your patients.*

## Definitions and criteria<sup>2</sup>

Substance use disorder (SUD) in DSM-5<sup>3</sup> includes several substances, such as opioids and stimulants.

A diagnosis of SUD requires two of the following criteria occurring within a 12-month period:

- Drug is often taken in larger amounts or over a longer period than was intended.
- There is a persistent desire or unsuccessful efforts to cut down or control use.
- Much time is spent in activities to obtain or use the drug or recovering from its effects.
- There is a strong desire or urge to use the drug.
- Recurrent drug use has resulted in failing to fulfill major role obligations at work, school, or home.
- Drug use continues despite persistent, or recurrent social or interpersonal problems caused or exacerbated by the effects of the drug.
- Important social, occupational, or recreational activities are given up or reduced due to drug use.
- The drug is recurrently used in situations in which it is physically hazardous.
- Drug use is continued despite knowing a persistent or recurrent physical or psychological problem that is likely caused or exacerbated by the drug.
- Tolerance is manifested by either of the following:
  - A need for markedly increased amounts of the drug to achieve intoxication or desired effect.
  - A markedly diminished effect with continued use of the same amount of the drug.
- Withdrawal is manifested by either of the following:
  - The characteristic withdrawal syndrome for the drug (refer to DSM-5 for further withdrawal information).

- The drug (or a closely related substance) is taken to relieve or avoid withdrawal symptoms.

**Note: Withdrawal criteria does not apply to hallucinogens or inhalants.**

## Severity of SUD

DSM-5 severity specifiers are based on the number of diagnostic criteria met by the patient at the time of diagnosis:

- Mild – Two to three criteria (use)
- Moderate – Four to five criteria (abuse)
- Severe – Six or more criteria (dependence)

## Documentation and coding

- Document diagnostic statements that are compatible with the ICD-10-CM<sup>4</sup> nomenclature.
- Assign only one code to identify the pattern of use based on the hierarchy, which identifies severity from highest to lowest (dependence, abuse, and use). e.g., If both use and abuse are documented, assign only the code for abuse. See *ICD-10-CM Coding Manual, Section I.C.5.b.2*.
- Determine if psychoactive substance use is associated with a substance-related disorder or medical condition.
- Use additional codes to describe comorbid or secondary conditions or complications (e.g., depression, liver disease or neurological diseases such as dementia).
- Confirm the clinician has signed and dated the face-to-face or telehealth encounter. Include the printed version of the clinician's full name and credentials (e.g., MD, DO, NP, PA).
- Document a treatment plan for the SUD, secondary conditions, and other comorbid conditions. A treatment plan can be in the form of a medication, referral, diet, or monitoring.

<sup>1</sup> Diagnosis inaccuracies that are not addressed can result in administrative sanctions and potential financial penalties.

<sup>2</sup> "Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders." American Psychiatric Association. 2013. Retrieved from [https://www.Psychiatry.org/File%20Library/Psychiatrists/Practice/DSM/APA\\_DSM-5-Substance-Use-Disorder.pdf](https://www.Psychiatry.org/File%20Library/Psychiatrists/Practice/DSM/APA_DSM-5-Substance-Use-Disorder.pdf).

<sup>3</sup> Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition.

<sup>4</sup> International Classification of Diseases, 10th Revision, Clinical Modification.

## Opioid use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Opioid:	Additional characters to use
<b>F11.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated	
<b>F11.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated	
<b>F11.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated	
<b>F11.11</b>	Abuse, in remission	
<b>F11.21</b>	Dependence, in remission	
<b>F11.91</b>	Unspecified, in remission	
<b>F11.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 2 – Perceptual disturbance 9 – Unspecified
<b>F11.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication	
<b>F11.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication	
<b>F11.13</b>	Abuse with withdrawal	
<b>F11.23</b>	Dependence with withdrawal	
<b>F11.93</b>	Use, unspecified, with withdrawal	

ICD-10 code	Opioid:	Additional characters to use
<b>F11.14</b>	Abuse with opioid-induced mood disorder	
<b>F11.24</b>	Dependence with opioid-induced mood disorder	
<b>F11.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with opioid-induced mood disorder	
<b>F11.15-</b>	Abuse with opioid-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F11.25-</b>	Dependence with opioid-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F11.95-</b>	Use, unspecified with opioid-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F11.18-</b>	Abuse with other opioid-induced disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 1 – Sexual dysfunction 2 – Sleep disorder 8 – Other disorder
<b>F11.28-</b>	Dependence with other opioid-induced disorder	
<b>F11.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other specified opioid-induced disorder	
<b>F11.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified opioid-induced disorder	
<b>F11.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified opioid-induced disorder	
<b>F11.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified opioid-induced disorder	

## Cannabis use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Cannabis:	Additional characters to use
<b>F12.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated	
<b>F12.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated	
<b>F12.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated	
<b>F12.11</b>	Abuse, in remission	
<b>F12.21</b>	Dependence, in remission	
<b>F12.91</b>	Use, in remission	
<b>F12.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 2 – Perceptual disturbance 9 – Unspecified
<b>F12.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication	
<b>F12.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication	
<b>F12.13</b>	Abuse with withdrawal	
<b>F12.23</b>	Dependence with withdrawal	

ICD-10 code	Cannabis:	Additional characters to use
<b>F12.93</b>	Use, unspecified, with withdrawal	
<b>F12.15-</b>	Abuse with psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F12.25-</b>	Dependence with psychotic disorder	
<b>F12.95-</b>	Use, unspecified, with psychotic disorder	
<b>F12.18-</b>	Abuse with other cannabis-induced disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 8 – Other disorder
<b>F12.28-</b>	Dependence with other cannabis-induced disorder	
<b>F12.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other cannabis-induced disorder	
<b>F12.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified cannabis-induced disorder	
<b>F12.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified cannabis-induced disorder	
<b>F12.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified cannabis-induced disorder	

## Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic:	Additional characters to use	ICD-10 code	Sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic:	Additional characters to use
<b>F13.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated		<b>F13.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced mood disorder	
<b>F13.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated		<b>F13.15-</b>	Abuse with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F13.90</b>	Use, uncomplicated		<b>F13.25-</b>	Dependence with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F13.11</b>	Abuse, in remission		<b>F13.95-</b>	Use, unspecified, with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F13.21</b>	Dependence, in remission		<b>F13.26</b>	Dependence with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced persisting amnesic disorder	
<b>F13.91</b>	Use, unspecified, in remission		<b>F13.96</b>	Use, unspecified, with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced persisting amnesic disorder	
<b>F13.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 9 – Unspecified	<b>F13.27</b>	Dependence with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced persisting dementia	
<b>F13.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication		<b>F13.97</b>	Use, unspecified, with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced persisting dementia	
<b>F13.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication		<b>F13.18-</b>	Abuse with other sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced disorders	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 1 – Sexual dysfunction 2 – Sleep disorder 8 – Other disorder
<b>F13.13-</b>	Abuse with withdrawal	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 2 – Perceptual disturbance 9 – Unspecified	<b>F13.28-</b>	Dependence with other sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced disorders	
<b>F13.23-</b>	Dependence with withdrawal		<b>F13.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced disorders	
<b>F13.93-</b>	Use, unspecified, with withdrawal.		<b>F13.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced disorder	
<b>F13.14</b>	Abuse with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced mood disorder		<b>F13.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced disorder	
<b>F13.24</b>	Dependence with sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced mood disorder		<b>F13.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified sedative, hypnotic, or anxiolytic-induced disorder	

## Cocaine use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Cocaine:	Additional characters to use	ICD-10 code	Cocaine:	Additional characters to use
<b>F14.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated		<b>F14.14</b>	Abuse with cocaine-induced mood disorder	
<b>F14.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated		<b>F14.24</b>	Dependence with cocaine-induced mood disorder	
<b>F14.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated		<b>F14.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with cocaine-induced mood disorder	
<b>F14.11</b>	Abuse, in remission		<b>F14.15-</b>	Abuse with cocaine-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F14.21</b>	Dependence, in remission		<b>F14.25-</b>	Dependence with cocaine-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F14.91</b>	Use, unspecified, in remission		<b>F14.95-</b>	Use, unspecified, with cocaine-induced psychotic disorder	

## Cocaine use, abuse, dependence (continued)

ICD-10 code	Cocaine:	Additional characters to use
<b>F14.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 2 – Perceptual disturbance 9 – Unspecified
<b>F14.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication	
<b>F14.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication	
<b>F14.13</b>	Abuse with withdrawal	
<b>F14.23</b>	Dependence with withdrawal	
<b>F14.93</b>	Use, unspecified, with withdrawal	

ICD-10 code	Cocaine:	Additional characters to use
<b>F14.18-</b>	Abuse with other cocaine-induced disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 1 – Sexual dysfunction 2 – Sleep disorder 8 – Other disorder
<b>F14.28-</b>	Dependence with other cocaine-induced disorder	
<b>F14.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other cocaine-induced disorder	
<b>F14.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified cocaine-induced disorder	
<b>F14.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified cocaine-induced disorder	
<b>F14.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified cocaine-induced disorder	

## Other stimulant use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Other stimulant:	Additional characters to use
<b>F15.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated	
<b>F15.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated	
<b>F15.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated	
<b>F15.11</b>	Abuse, in remission	
<b>F15.21</b>	Dependence, in remission	
<b>F15.91</b>	Use, unspecified, in remission	
<b>F15.12</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 2 – Perceptual disturbance 9 – Unspecified
<b>F15.22</b>	Dependence with intoxication	
<b>F15.92</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication	
<b>F15.13</b>	Abuse with withdrawal	
<b>F15.23</b>	Dependence with withdrawal	
<b>F15.93</b>	Use, unspecified, with withdrawal	

ICD-10 code	Other stimulant:	Additional characters to use
<b>F15.14</b>	Abuse with stimulant-induced mood disorder	
<b>F15.24</b>	Dependence with stimulant-induced mood disorder	
<b>F15.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with stimulant-induced mood disorder	
<b>F15.15</b>	Abuse with stimulant-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F15.25</b>	Dependence with stimulant-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F15.95</b>	Use, unspecified, with stimulant-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F15.18</b>	Abuse with other stimulant-induced disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 1 – Sexual dysfunction 2 – Sleep disorder 8 – Other disorder
<b>F15.28</b>	Dependence with other stimulant-induced disorder	
<b>F15.98</b>	Use, unspecified, with other stimulant-induced disorder	
<b>F15.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified stimulant-induced disorder	
<b>F15.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified stimulant-induced disorder	
<b>F15.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified stimulant-induced disorder	

## Hallucinogen use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Hallucinogen:	Additional characters to use
<b>F16.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated	
<b>F16.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated	
<b>F16.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated	
<b>F16.11</b>	Abuse, in remission	
<b>F16.21</b>	Dependence, in remission	
<b>F16.91</b>	Use, unspecified, in remission	
<b>F16.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated
<b>F16.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication	1 – Delirium
<b>F16.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication	2 – Perceptual disturbance ( <i>only with abuse</i> )
		9 – Unspecified
<b>F16.14</b>	Abuse with hallucinogen-induced mood disorder	
<b>F16.24</b>	Dependence with hallucinogen-induced mood disorder.	

ICD-10 code	Hallucinogen:	Additional characters to use
<b>F16.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with hallucinogen-induced mood disorder	
<b>F16.15-</b>	Abuse with hallucinogen-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F16.25-</b>	Dependence with hallucinogen-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F16.95-</b>	Use, unspecified, with hallucinogen-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F16.18-</b>	Abuse with other hallucinogen-induced disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 1 – Persisting perception disorder (flashbacks) 8 – Other disorder
<b>F16.28-</b>	Dependence with other hallucinogen-induced disorder	
<b>F16.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other hallucinogen-induced disorder	
<b>F16.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified hallucinogen-induced disorder	
<b>F16.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified hallucinogen-induced disorder	
<b>F16.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified hallucinogen-induced disorder	

## Inhalant use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Inhalant:	Additional characters to use
<b>F18.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated	
<b>F18.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated	
<b>F18.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated	
<b>F18.11</b>	Abuse, in remission	
<b>F18.21</b>	Dependence, in remission	
<b>F18.91</b>	Use, unspecified, in remission	
<b>F18.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 9 – Unspecified
<b>F18.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication	
<b>F18.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication	
<b>F18.14</b>	Abuse with inhalant-induced mood disorder	
<b>F18.24</b>	Dependence with inhalant-induced mood disorder	
<b>F18.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with inhalant-induced mood disorder	

ICD-10 code	Inhalant:	Additional characters to use
<b>F18.15-</b>	Abuse with inhalant-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F18.25-</b>	Dependence with inhalant-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F18.95-</b>	Use, unspecified, with inhalant-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F18.17</b>	Abuse with inhalant-induced dementia	
<b>F18.27</b>	Dependence with inhalant-induced dementia	
<b>F18.97</b>	Use, unspecified, with inhalant-induced dementia	
<b>F18.18-</b>	Abuse with other inhalant-induced disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 9 – Unspecified
<b>F18.28-</b>	Dependence with other inhalant-induced disorder	
<b>F18.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other inhalant-induced disorder	
<b>F18.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified inhalant-induced disorder	
<b>F18.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified inhalant-induced disorder	
<b>F18.99</b>	Dependence, unspecified, with unspecified inhalant-induced disorder	

## Other psychoactive substance use, abuse, dependence

ICD-10 code	Other psychoactive substance:	Additional characters to use	ICD-10 code	Other psychoactive substance:	Additional characters to use
<b>F19.10</b>	Abuse, uncomplicated		<b>F19.15-</b>	Abuse with psychoactive substance-induced psychotic disorder	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Delusions 1 – Hallucinations 9 – Unspecified
<b>F19.20</b>	Dependence, uncomplicated		<b>F19.25-</b>	Dependence with psychoactive substance-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F19.90</b>	Use, unspecified, uncomplicated		<b>F19.95-</b>	Use, unspecified, with psychoactive substance-induced psychotic disorder	
<b>F19.11</b>	Abuse, in remission		<b>F19.16</b>	Abuse with psychoactive substance-induced persisting amnesic disorder	
<b>F19.21</b>	Dependence, in remission		<b>F19.26</b>	Dependence with psychoactive substance-induced persisting amnesic disorder	
<b>F19.91</b>	Use, unspecified, in remission		<b>F19.96</b>	Use, unspecified, with psychoactive substance-induced persisting amnesic disorder	
<b>F19.12-</b>	Abuse with intoxication	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Uncomplicated 1 – Delirium 2 – Perceptual disturbance 9 – Unspecified	<b>F19.17</b>	Abuse with psychoactive substance-induced persisting dementia	
<b>F19.22-</b>	Dependence with intoxication		<b>F19.27</b>	Dependence with psychoactive substance-induced persisting dementia	
<b>F19.92-</b>	Use, unspecified, with intoxication		<b>F19.97</b>	Use, unspecified, with psychoactive substance-induced persisting dementia	
<b>F19.13-</b>	Abuse with withdrawal		<b>F19.18-</b>	Abuse with other psychoactive substance-induced disorders	(-) Add 6th character: 0 – Anxiety disorder 1 – Sexual dysfunction 8 – Other disorder
<b>F19.23-</b>	Dependence with withdrawal		<b>F19.28-</b>	Dependence with other psychoactive substance-induced disorders	
<b>F19.93-</b>	Use, unspecified, with withdrawal		<b>F19.98-</b>	Use, unspecified, with other psychoactive substance-induced disorders	
<b>F19.14</b>	Abuse with psychoactive substance-induced mood disorder		<b>F19.19</b>	Abuse with unspecified psychoactive substance-induced disorder	
<b>F19.24</b>	Dependence with psychoactive substance-induced mood disorder		<b>F19.29</b>	Dependence with unspecified psychoactive substance-induced disorder	
<b>F19.94</b>	Use, unspecified, with psychoactive substance-induced mood disorder		<b>F19.99</b>	Use, unspecified, with unspecified psychoactive substance-induced disorder	