Guideline: Screening, Diagnosis and Referral for Substance Use Disorders

Released: August 2019

This alert provides a summary of only the recommendations which were updated. Refer to the complete guideline for all recommendations and level of evidence.

Updated recommendations include:

**Eligible Population**
Adolescents and adults, including pregnant patients and older adults

**Screening for Substance Use Disorder and Risky Substance Use**
- Screen for alcohol use at every health maintenance exam and initial pregnancy visit (repeat as indicated).
- If at risk, screen by history for substance use at every health maintenance exam or initial pregnancy visits, using a validated screening tool:
  - Adults: AUDIT-C, DAST-10
  - Adolescents: CRAFFT
  - Pregnancy Women: TWEAK
- If positive for one substance, screen for past/present substance misuse of others including prescription or over-the-counter medications.
- For high risk patients, use a Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, e.g., MAPS, and consider a urine drug screen.

**Eligible Population**
Patients with Substance Use Disorder or Risky Substance Use

**Patient Education and Brief Intervention by PCP or Trained Staff (e.g., RN, MSW)**
- Express concern, advise the patient to cut back on usage or quit, using motivational interviewing techniques. Use respectful and non-judgmental language.
- Create an action plan identifying patient strengths and supports, preferably involve family and friends. See MQIC opioid guideline.

**Treatment and Referral**
- If moderate to severe SUD and no contraindications, consider initiating Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), with counseling.
- Consider referral to community-based services (e.g., AA, NA). Online or app-based self-management support programs are also available.