

SUBSTANCE USE/DRUG TREATMENT

Substance abuse is widespread in many U.S. populations, including the HIV population. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), more than 200,000 people with AIDS in the U.S. are injection drug users, representing 32 percent of all reported AIDS cases. People with HIV also deal with addiction to other substances, such as alcohol and non-injection drugs.

You may have firsthand experience with substance use or know someone who uses substances. It is important you be aware of the many resources available in Los Angeles County for those who would like to stop or reduce their substance use.

When a person with HIV abuses drugs, either recreational or prescription, they are said to have a 'dual diagnosis' and many service providers work to treat HIV and substance use simultaneously.

Substance use also affects family members and friends, so a service provider may often include these people when treating you for substance abuse. Other providers specialize in treating members of specific populations such as men, women, youth or the post-incarcerated.

When you or someone in your life is ready to begin treatment for substance use and addiction, support in the community is available.

[What Services Are Available?](#)

-Recovery/detoxification: facilities offer residential detoxification, residential rehabilitation and transitional housing services

-Outpatient services: Providers offer day treatment options (daily or weekly visits), HIV medical services, substance use support groups, counseling on HIV medication and treatment and assistance in developing a drug adherence plan

-Treatment information and advocacy: Providers offer comprehensive support services, advocacy and information for people with HIV who are dealing with substance use

-Case management: providers offer referrals for people with HIV to substance recovery programs

-Needle exchange/cleaning works: Providers offer HIV prevention services, including needle exchange at designated sites and information on proper cleaning of works and HIV risk-reduction

-HIV testing: Providers offer on-site and mobile HIV-testing and testing at sites where substance recovery services are delivered

[Am I Eligible for Services?](#)

Substance abuse treatment services range from telephone or drop-in counseling to residential programs and other intensive services. In general, no one will be turned away from substance use treatment if

they are unable to pay.

An assessment can determine your eligibility and readiness for services. If you are dealing with severe mental problems or life-threatening medical conditions, you may not be eligible for some programs. You can expect to be referred to a program to better fit your needs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

-For the most up-to-date Substance Abuse/Drug Treatment listings visit www.hivla.org

-For the most up-to-date Crystal Meth abuse service listings visit www.hivla.org

-Call Alcoholics Anonymous at (323) 936-4343 (info available 24 hours), or visit www.lacoa.org

-Call Cocaine Anonymous, (310) 216-7729

-Call Narcotics Anonymous, (800) 863-2962 (TODAY NA) or (626) 359-0084 or visit

www.todayna.org