Title | Describe common substances, gambling and other behavioural addiction issues in New Zealand and their effects
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Level | 4
Credits | 8

Purpose
People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe common substance-use disorders in New Zealand, their effects on people accessing addiction services, and their effects on whānau and family, and describe common behavioural addiction issues in New Zealand, their effects on people accessing addiction services, their effects on whānau and family, and describe how addiction issues can develop.

Classification | Health, Disability, and Aged Support > Mental Health and Addiction Support

Available grade | Achieved

Guidance Information
1. Recommended skills and knowledge – refer to Unit 26984, *Describe mental health and addiction issues and the potential impact of co-existing problems*.

2. Legislation and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:
   - Crimes Act 1961;
   - Criminal Procedure Act 2011;
   - Criminal Procedure (Mentally Impaired Persons) Act 2003;
   - Health and Disability Commissioner (Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers’ Rights) Regulations 1996;
   - Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003;
   - Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care and Rehabilitation) Act 2003;
   - Mental Health (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 1992;
   - Misuse of Drugs Act 1975;
   - Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 (Children’s and Young People’s Well-being Act 1989);
   - Privacy Act 1993;
   - Protection of Personal and Property Rights Act 1988;
   - Substance Addiction (Compulsory Assessment and Treatment) Act 2017.

3. New Zealand Standards relevant to this unit standard include:
   - NZS 8134.0:2008 *Health and disability services (general) Standard*;
   - NZS 8134.1:2008 *Health and disability services (core) Standards*;
   - NZS 8134.2:2008 *Health and disability services (restraint minimisation and safe practice) Standards*;
   - NZS 8134.3:2008 *Health and disability services (infection prevention and control) Standards*.

All standards are available from [https://www.standards.co.nz](https://www.standards.co.nz).
4 References:

5 Definitions:
- "Addiction" is a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual's life experiences. People with addiction use substances or engage in behaviours that become compulsive and often continue despite harmful consequences." ASAM (2019). Available at: [https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/revised-def-of-addiction-final.pdf?sfvrsn=a8aa4fc2_2](https://www.asam.org/docs/default-source/advocacy/revised-def-of-addiction-final.pdf?sfvrsn=a8aa4fc2_2).
- *Behavioural addiction issues* can refer to gambling, internet, gaming, work, food, sex, risk-taking, shopping.
- *Common substances* refer to depressants, stimulants, cannabis, opioids, hallucinogens and novel psycho-active substances.
- *Effects on people with addiction issues* refers to physical, social, cognitive, cultural and/or spiritual, and psychological effects.
- *People accessing addiction services* may also be known as consumers, clients, patients, tūroro, or tangata whai ora in particular contexts and settings.
Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe common substance-use disorders in New Zealand, their effects on people accessing addiction services, and their effects on whānau and family.

Range evidence is required for three common substance-use disorders in New Zealand, one of which is alcohol.

Performance criteria

1.1 Common substance-use disorders in New Zealand are described in terms of their classifications under DSM-V.

1.2 The effects on people with addiction issues that result from common substance-use disorders in New Zealand are described in accordance with the references.

Range evidence is required of two effects on addiction service users for each addiction.

1.3 The effects on whānau and family of people accessing addiction services as a result of common substance-use disorders in New Zealand are described in accordance with the references.

Range evidence is required for two effects on whānau and family supports for each substance-use disorder.

Outcome 2

Describe common behavioural addiction issues in New Zealand, their effects on people accessing addiction services, and their effects on whānau and family.

Range evidence is required for three common behavioural addiction issues in New Zealand, one of which is gambling.

Performance criteria

2.1 The effects on people accessing an addiction service as a result of common behavioural addiction issues in New Zealand are described in accordance with the references.

Range evidence is required for two effects on people accessing an addiction service for each addiction issue.

2.2 The effects on the whānau and family supports of people accessing an addiction service as a result of common behavioural addiction issues in New Zealand are described in accordance with the references.

Range evidence is required for two effects on whānau and family supports for each addiction issue.
Outcome 3

Describe how addiction issues can develop.

Range three factors contributing to the development and maintenance of addiction issues.

Performance criteria

3.1 Factors are described in terms of developing problems.

Range factors may include but are not limited to – anxiety, stress, trauma, adverse childhood experiences, distress, low mood, learned behaviour and/or modelling.

3.2 A range of common behaviours that may be demonstrated by people accessing addiction services are described.

Range behaviours may include but are not limited to – hiding the behaviour, denial of problems with the behaviour, personal control and loss of control of the behaviour and minimising the behaviour.

3.3 Actions that may be taken to support people with addiction issues are described in accordance with the references.

Range evidence is required for a minimum of three actions.

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Planned review date 31 December 2024

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

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Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference 0024


Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Careerforce [info@careerforce.org.nz](mailto:info@careerforce.org.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.