

LEVEL 1 - OUTPATIENT CO-OCCURRING ENHANCED SERVICES BY SERVICE CHARACTERISTICS¹

I. SETTING

No additional sub-service characteristics.

II. SUPPORT SYSTEMS (1 sub-service characteristic)

Address those services which need to be readily available to the program through affiliation or contract.

II.1. Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs offer ongoing intensive case management for highly crisis-prone (and often homeless) individuals with co-occurring disorders. Such services are delivered by cross-trained interdisciplinary staff through mobile outreach and engagement-oriented psychiatric and addictive disorders programming (*The ASAM Criteria, p 187*).

Patients routinely present with complex co-occurring disorders further exacerbated by pressing social needs that complicate their participation in treatment.

Goal: Delivered by cross-trained interdisciplinary staff through mobile outreach and engagement-oriented psychiatric and addictive disorders programming.

III. STAFF (2 sub-service characteristics)

Address the composition and competencies of professionals on the staff of the program.

III.1. Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs are staffed by appropriately credentialed mental health professionals, who are able to assess, monitor, and manage the types of severe and chronic mental disorders seen in a Level 1 setting, as well as other psychiatric disorders that are mildly unstable (*The ASAM Criteria, p 188*).

Patients presenting for treatment at Level 1 co-occurring enhanced outpatient services require a set of treatment services that are provided by mental health clinicians with the education, training, and expertise to assess, monitor and manage severe and chronic mental disorders.

III.2. Level 1 co-occurring staff are knowledgeable about the management of co-occurring mental and substance-related disorders, including the assessment of the patient's stage of readiness to change and engagement of patients who have co-occurring mental disorders (*The ASAM Criteria, p 188*).

Level 1 co-occurring enhanced outpatient services require staff that are knowledgeable about the unique needs of individuals with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Patients presenting for treatment at this intensity of care are best served by having a clinical team that can competently address the co-occurring disorders, assess the patient's readiness to change, and create and execute effective strategies for patient engagement.

Goal: Services are provided by mental health clinicians with the education, training, and expertise to assess, monitor and manage severe and chronic mental disorders.

IV. THERAPIES (1 sub-service characteristic)

Cover the range of therapies that programs need to offer to ensure they meet the personalized biopsychosocial needs of patients.

IV.1. Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs offer therapies to actively address, monitor, and manage psychotropic medication, mental health treatment and the interaction with substance-related

¹This document provides an overview of the characteristics of co-occurring enhanced programs at Level 1 Outpatient Services. Outpatient co-occurring enhanced programs should review *The ASAM Criteria 2013, 3rd edition*, for criteria specific to Level 1.

and addictive disorders. There may be close coordination with intensive case management and assertive community treatment for patients who have severe and chronic mental illnesses (*The ASAM Criteria, p 188*).

Patients in Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs require a full range of outpatient services supported by an integrated psychiatric service that proactively addresses the patient's complex co-occurring mental and substance disorders. This approach may be in close coordination with intensive case management and assertive community treatment that are considered integral, and not adjunctive to treatment.

Goal: Offer a full range of outpatient services supported by an integrated psychiatric service that proactively addresses the patient's complex co-occurring mental and substance disorders.

V. ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT PLAN REVIEW (2 sub-service characteristics)

Addresses assessment of the patient for withdrawal management services, addiction treatment, and patient's recent psychiatric history.

V.1. Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs provide a review of the patient's recent psychiatric history and mental status examination. If necessary, this review is conducted by a psychiatrist. A comprehensive psychiatric history, examination, and psychodiagnostic assessment are performed within a reasonable time as determined by the patient's psychiatric condition (*The ASAM Criteria, p 189*).

A comprehensive review and assessment of the patient's recent psychiatric history, as well as psychodiagnostic assessment are part of the standard multidimensional assessment. The assessment is the foundation for developing an individualized treatment plan.

V.2. Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs provide active reassessment of the patient's mental status and follow through with mental treatment and psychotropic medications at each visit (*The ASAM Criteria, p 189*).

Active reassessments of the patient at every visit ensures that the patient's response to treatment is accurately tracked and appropriate adjustments to the treatment plan are made.

Goal: Provides a review of the patient's recent psychiatric history and mental status examination.

VI. DOCUMENTATION (1 sub-service characteristic)

Detail the expectations regarding the individualized patient information that needs to be captured to ensure optimal patient care.

VI.1. Level 1 co-occurring enhanced programs document the patient's mental health problems, the relationship between the mental and substance use disorders, and the patient's current level of mental functioning (*The ASAM Criteria, p 189*).

The primary method for documenting progress is the through regular notes that describe the implementation of the treatment plan, patient response to interventions and any amendments made. Co-occurring enhanced program documentation specifically record the patient's mental health problems, the relationship between the mental and substance use disorders, and the patient's current level of mental functioning. Notes should be timely, complete, and accurate, in accordance with established policies and procedures.

Goal: Specifically record the patient's mental health problems, the relationship between the mental and substance use disorders, and the patient's current level of mental functioning.