

PDH Academy

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Substance Use Disorder and Women: Physical and Psychological Effects

Course Abstract

This course is designed for social workers who are working primarily with women diagnosed with substance use disorders. The course reviews how women are affected by substances either physically or psychologically. Physically, the therapist will be working with the biological effects from a medical model. However, there are psychological effects resulting from addiction or leading to addiction. Such psychological effects leading to substance use disorders are domestic violence situations and traumatic life events. Such events resulting from the psychological effects include Reactive Attachment Disorder, and negative effects on the family to name a few. The course also identifies the therapeutic techniques that are the most helpful when working with women diagnosed with substance use disorders. Other areas that are addressed in the course are: pregnancy and substance use disorders, and HIV.



"This program is Approved by the National Association of Social Workers (Approval # 886745725-3666) for 3 continuing education contact hours."

Learning Objectives

1. Identify the critical complex issues that women experience as a result of substance use.
2. Describe the medical issues that can be pre-disposed prior to addiction.
3. Discuss the long – term impact that childhood trauma and parental styles has on the woman attempting recovery.
4. Identify assessments that counselors can use during post-partum depression and other mental health issues
5. Evaluate the important issues that qualified health professionals need to be aware of for women to progress through the recovery process

Timed Agenda/Outline

I.	Substance Use Disorder	10 min
II.	Criteria to Diagnose Substance Use Disorders	15 min
III.	Substance Use Diagnosis	20 min
	A. Addiction Severity Index	
	B. Level of Care Utilization System	
IV.	Combining Other Substances	5 min
V.	Biological Effects for Substance Use	10 min
VI.	Types of Substances	5 min
VII.	Opioid Medication – Physical Effects	5 min
VIII.	Coping with Stress through Intervention	10 min
IX.	The Role of Behavioral Health and Addiction	30 min
	A. Depression During Pregnancy	
	B. Post-Partum Depression	
	C. Biological Features of Post-Partum	
	D. Assessments for Post-Partum Depression	
	E. Post-traumatic Stress Disorder	
	1. PTSD – DSM 5	
	2. PTSD Assessments	
	3. Therapeutic Treatment for PTSD	
	a. Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy	
	b. The Mindfulness Technique	
X.	Effective Theories for Women	30 min
	A. Motivational Interviewing	
	1. The Method of Motivational Interviewing	
	2. The Spirit of Motivational Interviewing	
	B. Motivational Enhancement Therapy	
	C. Trauma Informed Care	
	1. Experiences of Women because of past addiction that interfere with treatment	
	2. Reactive Attachment Disorder	
	a. Common Symptoms of Inhibited RAD	
	b. Common Symptoms with Disinhibited RAD	
XI.	Therapeutic Approaches for Women	20 min
XII.	Women, HIV, HCV, and Addiction	20 min
XIII.	Future Thoughts for Women	2 min
XIV.	Conclusion	5 min
Total Min.		187 min

Delivery Method

Correspondence/internet self-study course, including a provider-graded final exam. To earn continuing education credit for this course, you must achieve a passing score of 80% on the final exam.

Course Author Biography

Davina Moss-King, Ph.D. CRC, CASAC, NCC

Dr. Moss-King is the president and owner of Positive Direction and Associates, Inc. and has 25 + years of experience counseling individuals with substance use disorders. She graduated from the State university of New York at Buffalo with a Ph.D. in Counselor Education in 2005. As a New York State Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselor and a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor and a National Credentialed Counselor Dr. Moss-King has worked in the Western New York area in all areas of substance abuse treatment. Dr. Moss-King's primary focus for research is women's / children's health along with creating coping mechanisms and lifestyle changes for women using substance that are harmful. Dr. Moss-King has recently published a 1 hour course sponsored by the World Continuing Education Alliance of the United Kingdom (2016). Dr. Moss-King has published the book Unresolved Grief and Loss Issues Related to Heroin Recovery (2009) along with a Continuing Education course regarding women using opioids during pregnancy. She has also published a chapter in the text book Substance Abuse and Treatment (2013). Dr. Moss-King is a member of the American Psychological Association and The National Neonatal Therapist Association.