

## Qualification Unit

This unit forms part of a regulated qualification.

**Unit Title:** Principles of Understanding and Responding to Substance Misuse

**Unit Reference Number:** M/618/2517

**Level:** Three (3)

**Credit Value:** Six (6)

**Minimum Guided Learning Hours:** 42

Learning Outcome (The Learner will):	Assessment Criterion (The Learner can):
1. Understand substances, their use and effects	1.1 Describe a range of substances and methods of administration
	1.2 Discuss the desired effects and risks of the substances identified
2. Understand current relevant legislation for delivery of services for people who use substances	2.1 Explain current UK drug and alcohol legislation and its impact on substance users and services
	2.2 Consider arguments for and against the decriminalisation/legalisation of drugs
3. Understand Government strategy for the delivery of services for people who use drugs and alcohol	3.1 Describe Government drug and alcohol strategies underpinning the delivery of services for substance users
4. Be able to protect the diversity, equality and rights of people who use substance misuse services	4.1 Identify attitudes to substance users in society and describe how these attitudes might affect the quality of service they receive
	4.2 Identify under-represented groups within substance misuse services and the reasons for their under-representation
	4.3 Identify actions that workers and services can take in line with government equalities legislation The intellectual property rights remain with Open Awards to promote access to substance misuse services

	4.4	Explain the importance of confidentiality and information sharing in providing services to substance users
5. Know about interventions available in substance misuse services	5.1	Describe what is meant by the following terms and give examples of how they are applied in practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Prevention</li> <li>b) Harm Reduction</li> <li>c) Prescribing and Detoxification</li> <li>d) Recovery</li> <li>e) Aftercare and Relapse Prevention</li> </ul>
6. Understand theoretical models describing substance misuse	6.1	Describe the transtheoretical model of behaviour change (cycle of change)
	6.2	Explain the medical model of substance misuse
	6.3	Explain the biopsychosocial model of substance misuse
7. Understand the importance of evidencebased practice	7.1	Explain what “evidence-based practice” is and why it is important in establishing guidelines
	7.2	Discuss recommended approaches for the treatment of people experiencing problems with substance misuse
	7.3	Describe how treatment data is collated and used in the development of evidence-based practice

Indicative Content	
LO2	<p>AC 2.1 - learners should consider the segmentation of caseloads and refer to Clinical Guidelines (i.e. the orange book).</p> <p>AC 2.3 – This is about promoting what advocacy is and how it works. Focussing on it being representing service users views rather than interpreting what they want.</p> <p>AC 2.4 – Recommend the approach from Public Health England.</p>
LO6	Learners should be demonstrating an awareness of the theories, rather than evaluating them.
LO7	AC 7.2 – Learners should be focusing on prescribing and refer to the NICE guidelines and Orange book.