Diagnosing Cannabis Use Disorder

Neighborhood Health Plan OF RHODE ISLAND™

Cannabis Use Disorder

Cannabis Use Disorder (CUD) is a recognized condition in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5). It encompasses problematic cannabis use, dependence, and withdrawal.
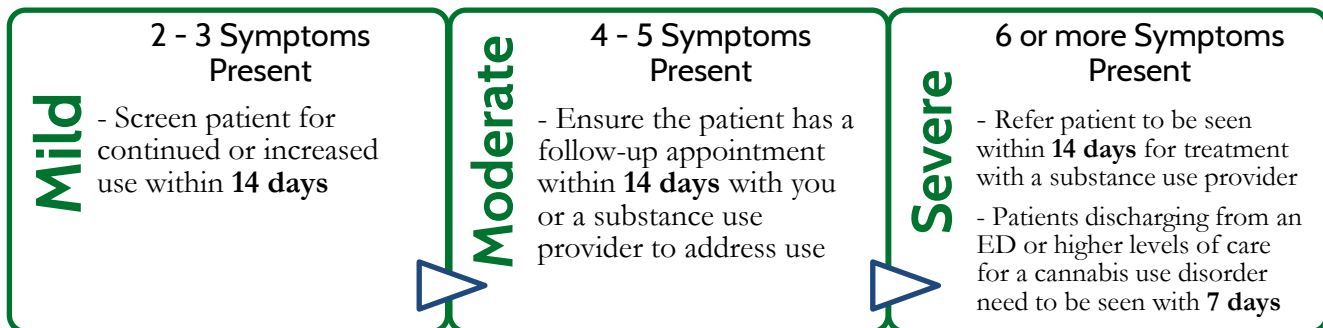
The following are symptoms of cannabis use disorder:

- Using more cannabis than intended
- Trying but failing to quit using cannabis
- Spending a lot of time using cannabis
- Craving cannabis and needing more cannabis to feel the same high
- Giving up important activities in favor of using cannabis
- Using cannabis in high-risk situations
- Experiencing withdrawal symptoms when stopping cannabis use
- Using cannabis even though it causes problems at home, school, and work
- Continue to use cannabis despite physical, psychological, or social problems

CUDIT-R Screening Tool

The **Cannabis Use Disorder Identification Test – Revised** (CUDIT-R) can be used to diagnose cannabis use disorder and determine best forms.

Treatment Planning Categories

Mild
2 - 3 Symptoms Present

- Screen patient for continued or increased use within **14 days**

Moderate
4 - 5 Symptoms Present

- Ensure the patient has a follow-up appointment within **14 days** with you or a substance use provider to address use

Severe
6 or more Symptoms Present

- Refer patient to be seen within **14 days** for treatment with a substance use provider

- Patients discharging from an ED or higher levels of care for a cannabis use disorder need to be seen with **7 days**

Behavioral Health Provider Referrals

Available Behavioral Health providers for referral can be found here.