

Documenting substance use disorder remission

Overview

Remission codes allow health care professionals to capture treatment progress made by patients with substance use disorders (SUDs). These codes indicate a patient previously met criteria for a SUD, but no longer exhibits the symptoms required for current active diagnosis.

Documenting remission:

- Establishes current status and drives treatment planning
- Prevents patients from being identified as an active user when they are not
- Improves quality scores by removing members in remission
 - Specifically from the Initiation and Engagement of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse or Dependence Treatment (IET) measure

Remission definitions

The DSM-5 distinguishes between 2 phases of SUD remission for a patient:

- **Early remission:** No symptoms of abuse or dependence for at least 3 months but less than 12 months
- **Sustained remission:** No symptoms, except a desire or craving to use the substance for ≥ 1 year

When using remission codes, other SUD diagnoses must be removed from the active diagnosis list

ICD-10 remission codes

Substance	Diagnosis	Description
Alcohol	F10.11	Alcohol Abuse, in remission
	F10.21	Alcohol Dependence, in remission
Opioids	F11.11	Opioid Abuse, in remission
	F11.21	Opioid Dependence, in remission
Cannabis	F12.11	Cannabis Abuse, in remission
	F12.21	Cannabis Dependence, in remission
Sedative, Hypnotic, Anxiolytic	F13.11	Sedative, Hypnotic, or Anxiolytic Abuse, in remission
	F13.21	Sedative, Hypnotic, or Anxiolytic Dependence, in remission
Cocaine	F14.11	Cocaine Abuse, in remission
	F14.21	Cocaine Dependence, in remission
Other Stimulants Amphetamine-type	F15.11	Other Stimulant Abuse, in remission
	F15.21	Other Stimulant Dependence, in remission
Hallucinogen, Phencyclidine	F16.11	Hallucinogen Abuse, in remission
	F16.21	Hallucinogen Dependence, in remission
Inhalants	F18.11	Inhalant Abuse, in remission
	F18.21	Inhalant Dependence, in remission
Other Psychoactive Substances	F19.11	Other Psychoactive Substance Abuse, in remission