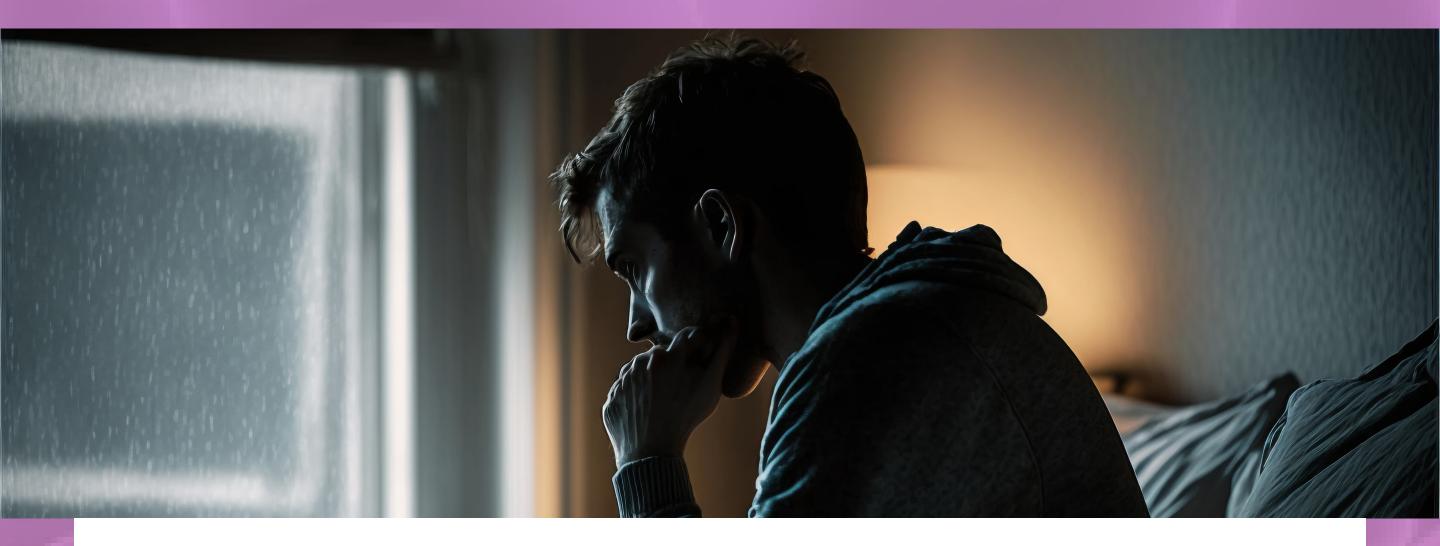


# Substance abuse can lead to depression in multiple ways:



#### Neurochemical Changes

Substances like alcohol, opioids, and stimulants can alter the brain's structure and function by affecting neurotransmitters, the brain chemicals that communicate information throughout our brain and body.

## Lifestyle Impact

Substance abuse often leads to significant lifestyle changes that can trigger or worsen depression. This includes financial difficulties, relationship problems, job loss, and legal issues.

### Health Consequences

These health problems can include chronic pain, liver disease, and other physical health problems that can cause depressive symptoms.

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