



# Practice Principles for Integrated Treatment for Co-Occurring Disorders

When it comes to treating individuals with both mental health and substance abuse issues, there are seven guiding principles that ensure the best possible care.

## **Integration of Treatment:**

Mental health and substance abuse treatment are combined to meet the needs of individuals with co-occurring disorders.

# **Specialized Training:**

Integrated treatment specialists are trained to address both substance use disorders and serious mental illnesses.

## **Staged Treatment:**

Co-occurring disorders are treated in stages, with different services provided at each stage based on the person's needs and progress.

# **Motivational Interventions:**

Motivational interventions are used throughout the treatment process, particularly during the persuasion stage, to encourage positive changes.

#### **Substance Abuse Counseling:**

Cognitive-behavioral therapy is utilized for substance abuse counseling in the active treatment and relapse prevention stages, helping individuals understand and modify negative thoughts and behaviors related to substance use.

### **Multiple Formats:**

Integrated treatment offers various formats for services, including individual counseling, group therapy, self-help programs and involving family members.

#### **Medication Services:**

Medication services are integrated and coordinated with psychosocial services to support the individual's recovery process.