

TOOL

Co-Occurring Disorders Workbook

Patient Education and Skill-Building





Trys not easy to learn the skills for managing recovery from several problems at once. Often it seems that what you need to do to manage your drug addiction or alcoholism is exactly the wrong thing for your depression, anxiety disorder, etc. But a few systematic steps can help you understand and apply the practices that build stable recovery and long-term sobriety. That's what this workbook is about.

Ten Tasks for Successful Recovery

- 1. **Stabilize symptoms:** Stop drinking and drugging. Follow your treatment plan. If psychiatric medications are prescribed, take them.
- 2. **Learn about your illness:** Show evidence of your knowledge by helping to teach others.
- **3. Self-diagnose:** Apply what you have learned to understand your own situation. "Own" your illness
- **4. Begin living one day at a time:** Develop a 24 hour plan. Don't get ahead of your plan.
- **5. Rearrange your activities to support recovery:** Your lifestyle should support your physical, spiritual, and psychological welfare.
- **6. Put treatment first:** Know your priorities. Make compliance unconditional.
- 7. **Inform others of your plan:** Enlist their help in achieving your goals.
- **8. Examine factors that could lead to relapse:** Don't fall into a relapse trap.
- **9. Make a detailed plan to prevent relapse:** Be sure to get plenty of feedback from others. Update and refine your plan.
- 10. Put your plan into action on a daily basis: Do what you said you would.



Task One: Stabilizing Symptoms

Α.	When I arrived in treatemotional and mood sym		e C.	Since arrival, m (Check one)	ıy m	nood and emotional state has
				Improved		
				Stayed the sar	ne	
В.	I have now been dr	rug and alcohol free fo	r	☐ Gotten worse		
	days.		D.	D. The factors that have made the bi in my mood are:		e made the biggest difference
E.	Negative symptoms I a	ım still experiencing includ	le (Che	eck all that apply):		
	Depression	Sadness	☐ C	an't relax		Irritable
	Frustrated	Easily upset	☐ A	nxious		Clenched jaw
	Anger	Want to hurt others	☐ W	ant to hurt self		Impatience
	Desire to escape	Desperation	☐ Fe	eeling of doom		Insecurity
	Can't stop worrying	Temper outburst	C	rying		Hear voices
	See things that aren't there	Can't make decisions	☐ D	espair		Panic feelings
	Suspiciousness	Lost confidence	□ H	eadaches		Insomnia
	Nightmares	Nervousness	☐ La	ack energy		Hopelessness
	Fear of the future	Confused thoughts	U U	nwanted thoughts		

F. Which negative symptoms are currently giving you the *most* difficulty? The *least* difficulty?



Task Two: Learning About My Illness

A.	I have been given a diagnosis of:	D.	The treatment for this disorder is (describe in your own words):			

- **B.** The signs and symptoms of this disorder are:
- **E. I can ge treated** for this disorder at:
- **C. This illness is** (check those that apply):
- ☐ Chronic ☐ Progressive
 - Manageable
 Transitory
 - Unimportant
 Untreatable
 - RelapsingA factor in my drug or alcohol use



Task Three: Owning Your Illness (Self-Diagnosis)

A. Signs and symptoms of my illness are (Check all that apply.) *Use the boxes at the bottom to add symptoms if necessary.*

Feeling tired all the time	Persistent sadness	Isolating from others	Being afraid
☐ Feeling angry	☐ Feeling lonely	☐ Crying	Confusion
☐ Not eating	☐ Yelling at others	☐ Nervousness	☐ Excessive sleeping
Paranoia	Thoughts of harming myself	Mood swings	Insomnia
☐ Not being clean	Thoughts of harming others	☐ Not bathing	☐ Not taking medicine
■ Making threats	☐ Visual hallucinatins	☐ Hearing voices	Hyperactivity
Panic feelings	☐ Anxiety	☐ Excessive smoking	Problems with others

B. Alcohol and drugs made these symptoms worse by (describe in your own words):



B. These are useful slogans. Define each to the best

of your understanding.

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Task Four: The 24-Hour Plan

A.	The most important things I need to do on a	
	daily basis are (circle your choices):	

Take meds as prescribed	Proper rest/ sleep	Eat/bathe properly	One day at a time
Attend treatment activities	Be with supportive people	Avoid alcohol	
Talk with other people	Control worry	Avoid drugs	Live and let live
Be honest with others about how I'm doing	Control fears	Follow treatment plan	
Keep appointments	See doctor/ therapist	Meditation/ prayer	Stay focused on the present
Recognize trouble signs	Remain hopeful	Avoid anger	
Calm myself	Be patient with others	Remember my illness	Easy does it

Keep it simple



Task Five: Rearranging Your Lifestyle

A. What activities must I change to support the gains I make in treatment?

Activity	Stop	Keep	Change (specify how)
Work			
Relationship			
Sex			
Family			
Friends			
Getting high			
Gambling			
Time alone			
Music			
TV			
Reading			
Traveling			
Eating			
Sleeping			
Other (specify):			



Task Six: Putting Recovery First

A. Based on your experience, would any of the following problems interfere with your success in continuing treatment? If yes, write briefly how you would prevent it from interfering again.

Problem	Your Solution
Medication costs, side effects, remembering to take it, feeling you don't need it.	
Problems with doctor, therapist, group, clinic, trust.	
Problems with addiction treatment, AA/NA, etc.	
Problems with family, friends.	
Problems with transportation.	

B. Write out, in your own words, what you are willing to do in order to be successful in treating your illness. Share it with your counselor. Then share it in group. Make changes in your statement to remove excuses and cop-outs. Then sign it and have your counselor sign as a witness. (*You can use the back of this sheet.*)



Task Seven: Informing Others of My Plan

Α.	How can other	people help	you follow	your treatment	plan? Check t	he choices that apply

Remind me about medicine, appointments with therapist	☐ Give me rides to appointments	Encourage me to quit smoking
Understand me	Listen to me	☐ Treat me as an adult
Help me manage money	Communicate with my doctor	Spend time with me
☐ Teach me things	☐ Have fun with me	☐ Don't yell or nag
☐ Tell me if I act sick	☐ Be honest with me	☐ Help me find work
Help me apply for services	☐ Go to family therapy	Be patient with me
Let me help them	☐ Be my friends	☐ Don't expect too much of me

B. Who can I tell oabout my plan? Check boxes that apply.

Doctor	☐ Nurse
Social worker	☐ Family
Probation officer	☐ Friends
Counselor	Caseworker
Others (list):	

C. Do you feel you can be honest with others about your plan for recovery? If not, explain why not.



Task Eight: Examine Relapse Factors

A.	What do you see as the three main dangers to your recovery plan?
	1.
	2.
	3.
В.	Complete the Relapse Traps test. According to the test, what are the main areas where you are vulnerable to relapse?
C.	In your own words, how do you plan to prevent relapse after you leave treatment?
D.	Share your relapse prevention plan with your small group, and ask for their feedback. Make changes where you think it is appropriate.



Task Nine and Ten: Make a Plan and Put it into Action

Α.	Your major goals for today (no more than four for any one day.)	A.	Imagine it's the first day after discharge. Manhow you will spend your time:	ap ou
	1.		Wakeup to 9:00 a.m:	
	2.		9:00 a.m Noon:	
	 4. 		Noon - 3:00 p.m:	
В.	Five Things you plan to do today to support your recovery:		3:00 p.m 6:00 p.m:	
	1. 2.		6:00 p.m 8:00 p.m:	
	3.		8:00 p.m 10:00 p.m:	
	4.		10:00 p.m. to bedtime:	
	5.			



Overview of the Tasks

Α.	(For those who have been prescribed medication) The name of my prescribed medication is:	E.	People I can go to for help in following my treatment plan are:
	The dose and frequency is:		
В.	I have been given a diagnosis of substance		
_	dependence and The symptoms I want to prevent are:	F.	The most important things I need to do daily to

prevent relapse and lead a healthy life are:

D. The best ways to manage my illness are: