

# Some General Perspectives on Substance Abuse Treatment

*Presented to the Adult Behavioral Health Task Force*

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# An Acute Treatment Perspective for a Chronic Condition?

*"An inherent problem with the current model of addiction treatment is that treatment is viewed as an episode of care while substance use disorders are lifelong."*

Robert DuPont, MD, former Director of NIDA and the Office of National Drug Policy

*"If addiction is best considered a chronic condition, then we are not providing appropriate treatment for many addicted patients."*

Thomas McLellan, Ph.D., Director of Treatment Research Institute

# Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide

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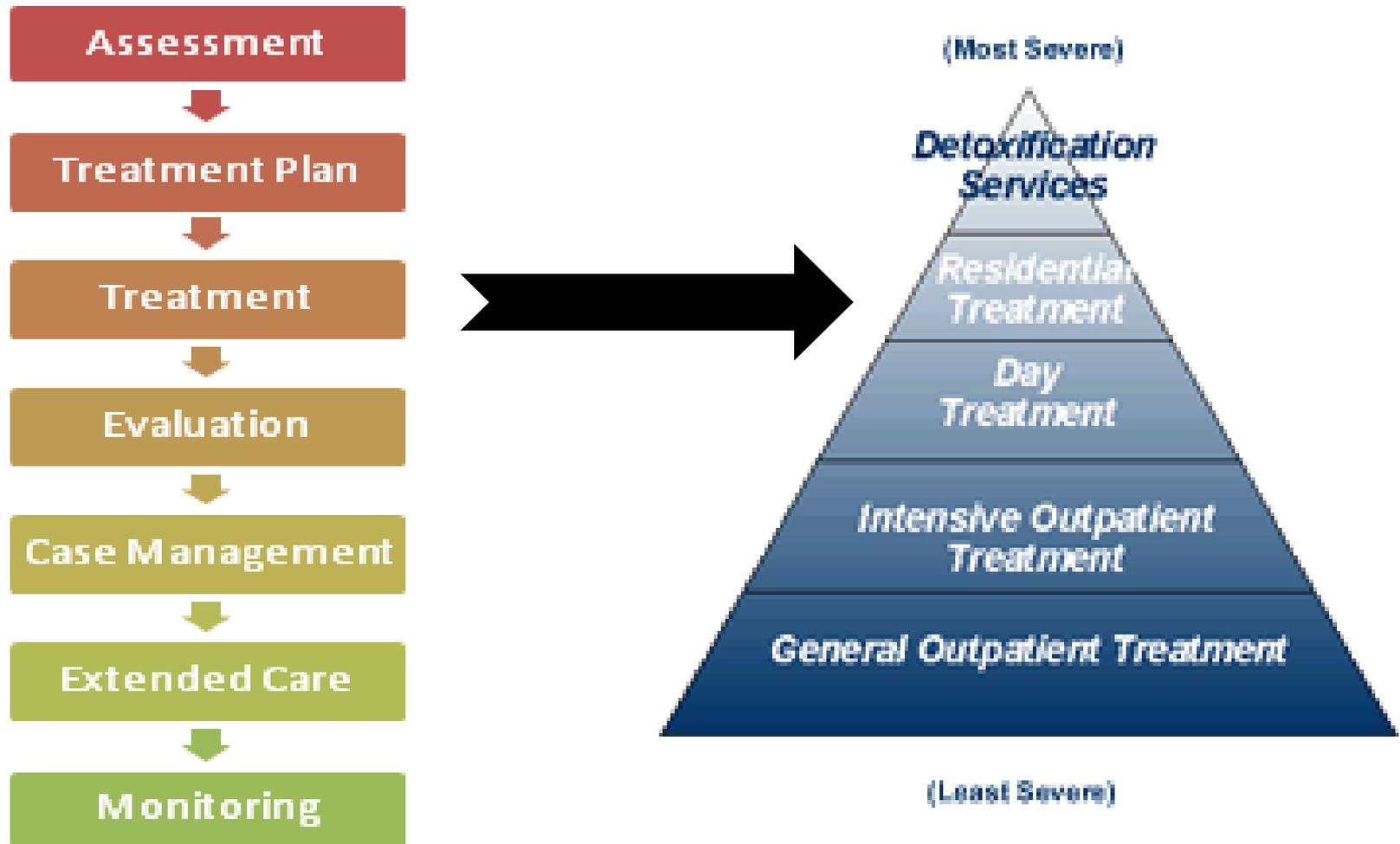
- ◆ No single treatment is appropriate for all individuals
- ◆ Treatment needs to be readily available
- ◆ Effective treatment attends to multiple needs of the individual, not just his or her alcohol/drug use

# Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide

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- ◆ An individual's treatment and services plan must be assessed continually and modified as necessary to ensure that the plan meets the person's changing needs
- ◆ Remaining in treatment for an adequate period of time is critical for treatment effectiveness

# Recovering from Addiction: A Continuum of Care

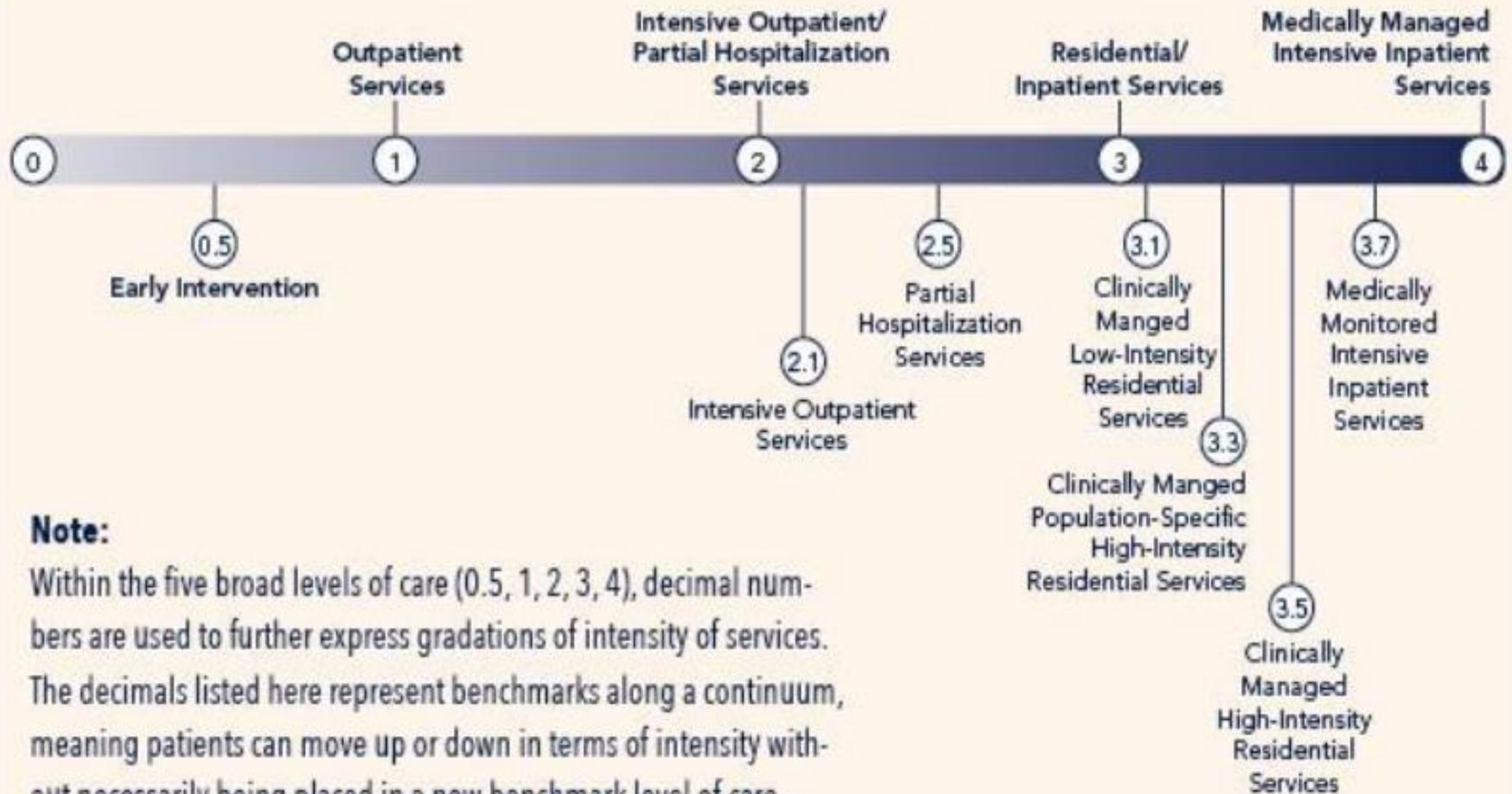


## AT A GLANCE: THE SIX DIMENSIONS OF MULTIDIMENSIONAL ASSESSMENT

ASAM's criteria uses six dimensions to create a holistic, biopsychosocial assessment of an individual to be used for service planning and treatment across all services and levels of care. The six dimensions are:

1	DIMENSION 1	<b>Acute Intoxication and/or Withdrawal Potential</b> Exploring an individual's past and current experiences of substance use and withdrawal
2	DIMENSION 2	<b>Biomedical Conditions and Complications</b> Exploring an individual's health history and current physical condition
3	DIMENSION 3	<b>Emotional, Behavioral, or Cognitive Conditions and Complications</b> Exploring an individual's thoughts, emotions, and mental health issues
4	DIMENSION 4	<b>Readiness to Change</b> Exploring an individual's readiness and interest in changing
5	DIMENSION 5	<b>Relapse, Continued Use, or Continued Problem Potential</b> Exploring an individual's unique relationship with relapse or continued use or problems
6	DIMENSION 6	<b>Recovery/Living Environment</b> Exploring an individual's recovery or living situation, and the surrounding people, places, and things

## REFLECTING A CONTINUUM OF CARE



### Note:

Within the five broad levels of care (0.5, 1, 2, 3, 4), decimal numbers are used to further express gradations of intensity of services. The decimals listed here represent benchmarks along a continuum, meaning patients can move up or down in terms of intensity without necessarily being placed in a new benchmark level of care.

# Successful Treatment Involves Multiple Components and Services

