

Definitions:

- **Addiction:** A chronic relapsing condition characterized by compulsive drug-seeking and abuse and long-lasting chemical changes in the brain. Continued use of the addictive substance induces adaptive changes in the brain that lead to tolerance, physical dependence, uncontrollable craving and, all too often, relapse.
- **Alcohol:** A depressant drug that slows the brain's activities and the activity of the spinal cord. Under normal circumstances, the intake of alcohol in moderation is legal and not considered to be harmful. However, during a pregnancy, most experts say that any amount of alcohol could potentially be harmful.
- **Analgesia:** absence of the sense of pain without loss of consciousness. [wordref]
- **Bupenorphine:** An opioid drug primarily used for the treatment of opioid addiction.
- **Cocaine:** A powerfully addictive stimulant that directly affects the brain. It comes in the form of white powder that can be snorted or injected and is made from the leaves of coca plants. The stronger version of cocaine that is heated with other chemicals to form solids is called crack. Cocaine can cause both a numbing sensation and a stimulating feeling, or “rush,” as dopamine is released.
- **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder(FASD):** Prenatal exposure to alcohol can cause a range of disorders, known as fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs). One of the most severe effects of drinking during pregnancy is fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS).
- **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS):** A set of physical and mental birth defects that results when a mother drinks alcohol during her pregnancy. Characterized by brain damage, facial deformities, and growth deficits. Heart, liver, and kidney defects are also common, as are vision and hearing problems. Individuals with FAS have difficulties with learning, attention, memory, and problem solving. [NOFAS]
- **Heroin:** Semisynthetic (opiate) drug derived from morphine. Heroin can be highly addictive, and is potent whether being sold pure or “cut”, meaning combined with other powdered substances. [med]
- **Marijuana:** A depressant which is the most commonly used illicit drug in the United States. A dry, shredded green/brown mix of flowers, stems, seeds, and leaves of the hemp plant *Cannabis sativa*, it usually is smoked as a cigarette (joint), or in a pipe (bong). It also is smoked in blunts, which are cigars that have been emptied of tobacco and refilled with marijuana. [med]
- **Meconium:** The first series of green stools of the newborn that begins to form during the second trimester and is not excreted in utero; it retains drugs to which the fetus has been exposed.

- **Methadone:** A synthetic opioid analgesic best known for its use in treating narcotic addiction, though it is also used in managing chronic pain due to its long duration of action and very low cost. [wik]
- **Methamphetamine:** A synthetic drug made in illegal laboratories chemically related to amphetamine. It stimulates the central nervous system by increasing the amount of certain chemicals in the body, increasing heart rate and blood pressure and decreasing appetite, among other effects. [med]
- **Nalbuphine:** a synthetic opioid used commercially as an analgesic under a variety of trade names, including Nubain.
- **Narcotic:** Any of a number of substances that have a depressant effect on the nervous system. [encyc]
- **Nicotine:** One of more than 4,000 chemicals found in the smoke from tobacco products such as cigarettes, cigars, and pipes. It is the addictive component in tobacco that acts on the brain. Nicotine is one of the most heavily used addictive drugs in the United States. [med]
- **Opiate:** A medication or illegal drug that is either derived from the opium poppy, or that mimics the effect of an opiate (a synthetic opiate). Opiate drugs are narcotic sedatives that depress activity of the central nervous system, reduce pain, and induce sleep. Long-term use of opiates can produce addiction, and overuse can cause overdose and potentially death. [med]
- **Opioid Analgesics:** Pain relievers that act on the central nervous system. Like all narcotics, they may become habit-forming if used over long periods. [gale]
- **Substance Use Disorder:** Dependence on and abuse of alcohol or other drugs usually taken voluntarily for the purpose of their effect on the central nervous system (usually referred to as intoxication or "high") or to prevent or reduce withdrawal symptoms.
- **THC (delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol):** The main active ingredient in marijuana.

Wordref = WordReference.com: www.wordreference.com/definition/

Med = MedicineNet.com Med Terms Medical Dictionary: www.medterms.com

Wik = Wikipedia: www.wikipedia.org

Encyc = High Beam Encyclopedia: www.encyclopedia.com

Gale = Gale Encyclopedia

NOFAS = National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: www.nofas.org