

Table 11-1: Screening for and Diagnosis of Substance Abuse

History of Substance Abuse	
Substances used	Opioids (heroin, prescription analgesics)
	Stimulants (cocaine, prescription stimulants)
	Alcohol (beer, wine, spirits, nonbeverage sources)
	Sedative-hypnotics (benzodiazepines, barbiturates)
	Tobacco (cigarettes, chewing tobacco)
	Other (marijuana, hallucinogens, solvents)
Routes of administration	Injection (intravenous, subcutaneous, intramuscular)
	Intranasal
	Inhaled
	Oral
Pattern of use	Amount
	Frequency
	Duration
	Most recent use
	Needle-sharing or shooting gallery use
Treatment history	Setting (outpatient, inpatient, residential)
	Drug treatment program
	Pharmacologic treatment
	Treatment outcome
Complications of Substance Abuse	
Medical	Needle-induced: viral, bacterial, and fungal infections; peripheral vascular disease
	Drug-induced: overdose, withdrawal, organ-specific complications (nephropathy due to heroin; cardiac ischemia due to cocaine; gastrointestinal, cardiac and neurologic disease due to alcohol)
	Other: tuberculosis, sexually transmitted disease
Social	Unemployment
	Family disruption
	Legal problems
	Homelessness
Physical Examination	
Signs of injection drug use	Recent: "tracks," cellulitis, abscess
	Past: "track" or abscess scars
Evidence of medical complications	
Laboratory Tests	
Toxicologic screening of urine	E.g.: opioids, cocaine, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, hallucinogens, alcohol
Screening for medical complications	E.g.: hepatitis B, C serologies, liver function abnormalities

Source: O'Connor PG, Selwyn PA, Schottenfeld RS. Medical care for injection-drug users with human immunodeficiency virus. *N Engl J Med* 331:450-9, 1994.