

Identifying Dependency

The seven criteria used to identify whether a person has a dependency problem:

- A stereotyped pattern of consumption; that is, the same drinks with the same people in the same place.
- Drinking or drug consumption taking priority over other activities.
- An increased tolerance with a need to drink more alcohol or take more drugs for the same effect.
- Physical withdrawal symptoms such as hand tremors and sweating.
- Taking a drink or drug to 'feel better'.
- An inability to stop at one or two drinks, or the prescribed drug dosage.
- A rapid return to pre-abstinence level when resuming consumption after a period of abstinence.

For dependency to exist, not all of the above factors need to be present. Some elements may be more evident than others.



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Damascus Health Services

Referrer Information

Providing a confidential and flexible approach to the care and treatment of people with a persistent pattern of excessive use of alcohol or drugs despite evidence of harmful effects



Damascus Health Services is for:

- Individuals whose use of alcohol and/or prescription drugs is problematic.
- Family members who are in need of support due to an alcohol or drug related problem.

About Damascus

Damascus Health Services is the only private healthcare facility in South East Queensland dedicated to the treatment of people with problems related to the use of alcohol and prescription drugs.

Damascus Health Service staff have developed specific programs to provide patients with the opportunity to solve their problems and to deal with the pressure and demands of everyday life.

The experienced staff at Damascus health Services come from a range of healthcare professions providing a multidisciplinary approach to care and treatment. This has been found to be the most appropriate way of addressing not only the harmful use of, or dependence on, alcohol and prescribed drugs, but also for other related issues such as personal conflict, spiritual needs, marital or family problems, or difficulties with community or work-life.

A treatment for your patients affected by prescribed drugs or alcohol.

Treatment and approach

The features of Damascus Health Services include:

- Comprehensive assessment
- Medically supervised withdrawal
- Relapse prevention skills
- Social skills training
- An environment that supportive for both men and women
- Withdrawal management if required
- Detailed discharge plan
- Couple counselling and groups
- Regular follow-up activities
- Family involvement.

Damascus health Services works collaboratively with practitioners to assist with management strategies before and after Damascus intervention.

Programs are offered on either an inpatient or day patients basis, depending on the needs of the patient. Individual and group therapy sessions are offered.

Understanding patient needs

Damascus health Services combines the highest levels of patient care with modern medical services and facilities. It offers patients an individualised and flexible approach including:

- Strict confidentiality
- Respect for each patient's right to privacy
- Safeguarding and promoting the well-being and dignity of each patient
- Convenient and comfortable location
- Individually tailored programs, backed by expert medical, nursing and allied health professional care
- Regular follow-up programs
- Access to self-help fellowships
- Access to medical specialists, physiotherapists and dieticians.

Facilities

Damascus Health Services is an integral part of the Brisbane Private Hospital. Privacy and confidentiality are assured for all patients. Each patient has a room with their own phone. Staff support is available 24 hours a day.

Admission Procedures

For further information on how to admit a patient to Damascus Health Services, please contact the Unit on 07 3834 6475 or a referral can be made by medical practitioners to one of the Brisbane Private Hospital accredited Medical officers.

Before admission, patients will need to check with their individual health insurance fund to determine the rebate to which they are entitled.

