

WAC 246-922-662 Definitions. The definitions in this section apply to WAC 246-922-660 through 246-922-790 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Aberrant behavior" means behavior that indicates misuse, diversion, unauthorized use of alcohol or other controlled substances, or active opioid use disorder. This includes, but is not limited to: Multiple early refills or renewals or obtaining prescriptions for the same or similar drugs from more than one practitioner.

(2) "Acute pain" means the normal, predicted physiological response to a noxious chemical, thermal, or mechanical stimulus and typically is associated with invasive procedures, trauma, and disease. Acute pain is considered to be six weeks or less in duration.

(3) "Biological specimen test" or "biological specimen testing" means testing of bodily fluids or other biological samples including, but not limited to, urine or hair for the presence of various drugs and metabolites.

(4) "Cancer-related pain" means pain resulting from cancer in a patient who is less than two years post-completion of curative anti-cancer treatment with current evidence of disease.

(5) "Chronic pain" means a state in which pain persists beyond the usual course of an acute disease or healing of an injury, or that may or may not be associated with an acute or chronic pathologic process that causes continuous or intermittent pain more than twelve weeks in duration. Chronic pain includes pain resulting from cancer or treatment of cancer in a patient who is two years post-completion of curative anticancer treatment with no current evidence of disease.

(6) "Comorbidities" means a preexisting or coexisting physical or psychiatric disease or condition.

(7) "Episodic care" means medical care provided by a podiatric physician other than the designated primary practitioner in the acute care setting, for example, urgent care or emergency department.

(8) "High dose" means ninety milligrams morphine equivalent dose, or more, per day.

(9) "High-risk" is a category of patient at increased risk of opioid induced morbidity or mortality, based on factors and combinations of factors such as medical and behavioral comorbidities, polypharmacy, history of substance use disorder or abuse, aberrant behavior, high dose opioid prescription, or the use of any central nervous system depressant.

(10) "Hospice" means a model of care that focuses on relieving symptoms and supporting patients with a life expectancy of six months or less.

(11) "Hospital" means any institution, place, building, or agency licensed under chapter 70.41 or 71.12 RCW, or designated under chapter 72.23 RCW to provide accommodations, facilities, and services over a continuous period of twenty-four hours or more, for observation, diagnosis, or care of two or more individuals not related to the operator who are suffering from illness, injury, deformity, or abnormality, or from any other condition for which obstetrical, medical, or surgical services would be appropriate for care or diagnosis.

(12) "Medication assisted treatment" or "MAT" means the use of pharmacologic therapy, often in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, for the treatment of substance use disorders.

(13) "Morphine equivalent dose" or "MED" means a conversion of various opioids to a morphine equivalent dose by the use of accepted conversion tables.

(14) "Opioid analgesic" or "opioid" means a drug that is either an opiate derived from the opium poppy or opiate-like that is a semi-synthetic or synthetic drug. Examples include morphine, codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, fentanyl, meperidine, tramadol, buprenorphine, and methadone.

(15) "Palliative care" means care that maintains or improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing serious, advanced, or life-threatening illness.

(16) "Pain" means an unpleasant sensory or emotional experience associated with actual or potential tissue damage, or described in terms of such damage.

(17) "Pain management clinic" means a facility that provides comprehensive pain management and may include care provided by multiple available disciplines, practitioners, or treatment modalities.

(18) "Perioperative pain" means acute pain that occurs surrounding the performance of surgery.

(19) "Prescription monitoring program" or "PMP" means the Washington state prescription monitoring program authorized under chapter 70.225 RCW.

(20) "Practitioner" means an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW, a dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW, a physician licensed under chapter 18.71 or 18.57 RCW, a physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A or 18.57A RCW, or a podiatric physician licensed under chapter 18.22 RCW.

(21) "Refill" or "renewal" means a second or subsequent filling of a previously issued prescription. For the purposes of WAC 246-922-660 through 246-922-790, refills or renewals are subject to the same limitations and requirements as initial prescriptions.

(22) "Subacute pain" means a continuation of pain, of six weeks to twelve weeks in duration.

(23) "Substance use disorder" means a primary, chronic, neurobiological disease with genetic, psychosocial, and environmental factors influencing its development and manifestations. Substance use disorder is not the same as physical dependence or tolerance that are normal physiological consequences of extended opioid therapy for pain. It is characterized by behaviors that include, but are not limited to, impaired control over drug use, craving, compulsive use, or continued use despite harm.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.22.005, 18.22.015, 18.22.800, and 2017 c 297. WSR 18-20-085, § 246-922-662, filed 10/1/18, effective 11/1/18. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.22.240, 18.22.015(5). WSR 11-10-063, § 246-922-662, filed 5/2/11, effective 7/1/11.]