

Universal Symptoms of Drug Abuse

Eyes/Nose/Mouth

Bloodshot eyes or noticeable changes in pupil size (e.g., small like a pinpoint or overly large). Nosebleeds or nasal irritation from snorting, coughing, or an increased thirst due to dry mouth/throat. An irritation of the mouth or throat from smoking.

Sudden Weight Changes

Including both loss and gain due to a byproduct of drug induced appetite changes.

Withdrawal Symptoms

Complaints of a headache, runny nose, profuse sweating, nausea, vomiting, or excessive fatigue and sleeplessness may be the result of substance use or withdrawal. [46]

Uncharacteristic Poor Hygiene

Such as wearing dirty clothes, a strong body odor from not bathing, noticeable poor oral hygiene or health, and a general unkempt appearance [45]

Skin

Unexplained bruising or marks on skin, or wearing inappropriate clothing like long sleeves in warm weather to cover injection marks. Flushed skin or heavy breathing which may be a result of increased heart rate and blood pressure [44]

Other Behaviors

The student may exhibit body shaking, trembling, tic-like movements not previously noticed, or noticeable evidence of picking at the skin on the face or arms.

