

WTC Residential & Enrichment Services Procedures for Suspicion of Substance Use – Evening & Night Shifts

When a consumer is suspected of being impaired due to suspected alcohol or illegal drug use, then the following must occur:

Staff need to ask the consumer (take written notes):

1. Have you been drinking or taking drugs?
2. Are you feeling sick? In pain?
3. What did you drink or drugs did you take?
4. How much did you drink or drugs did you take?
5. When did you drink or take drugs?
6. Do you take any medicine? (Medicine could intensify the effects).
7. How old are you?
 - If 20 years or younger, then **staff need to provide a breathalyzer test.**

Staff need to observe the consumer:

1. How is the consumer acting (e.g., unstable when walking, falling down, bumping into things, slurred voice, delayed responses, glossy or red eyes, making irrational statements, argumentative, belligerent, passed out)?
2. If you have concerns about their medical stability, then call 911 to take the consumer to the hospital. Follow the protocol for contacting emergency contacts when we send consumers to the hospital. Be prepared to share information you have learned from interviewing the consumer with 911 and the paramedics.
3. If you do not have concerns about their medical stability (e.g., they are not passed out, not falling down), then check on them regularly through the night and alert the next shift to keep an eye on them.

Documentation:

1. Shift Report:
 - Document the issue.
2. Email to all appropriate staff and copy into AWARE™ Service Note:
 - a. Describe situation (include information learned from consumer - who, what, when, etc.).
 - b. Include the results of breathalyzer finding, if tested.
3. Incident Report:
 - Complete an Incident Report if the consumer is verbally or physically combative.