



Quick Pocket Guide Updates to LPS Grave Disability

Observable considerations for **grave disability (GD)** due to mental health symptoms and/or a severe substance use disorder:

Unable to articulate a plan for food, clothing, or shelter
Irrational beliefs about food that is available or offered (e.g. poisoned)
Inability to engage in personal hygiene
Refusal to utilize food, clothing, or shelter when offered resources
Urinating or defecating on oneself
Impacted speech: tangential, rambling, difficult to understand
Violent or threatening statements
Fluctuating between calm and agitation
Creating a public disturbance
Yelling obscenities, screaming
Paranoid or delusional thought content
Disorganized thought content
Catatonic/blank stare/mute
Hallucinating (talking to or responding to unseen others, hearing voices,)

Observable factors to consider for **Severe Substance Use**:

Overwhelming odor of alcohol or marijuana
Dilated/constricted pupils/bloodshot eyes
Eyes wide open, droopy/heavy lidded, nodding off
Unsteady gait/slurred speech/unable to walk or stand by oneself/fumbles simple tasks
Scratching, picking or clawing at skin (e.g. noticeable sores on face, hands or arms)
Unintelligible speech: loud, yelling, slurring words
Multiple/pattern of contacts for similar presentation (intoxication) in 12-month period

Observable factors to consider for **not tending to Personal Safety** due to mental health symptoms and/or substance use:

Wandering, walking or running in and out of traffic
Unhygienic/uninhabitable conditions at home or other home safety issues such as not attending to appliances (e.g., leaving the stove on) due to intoxication or mental health symptoms
Inability to care for hygiene and cleanliness which could or has led to illness
Hoarding to an extreme, causing safety concerns or hazardous (dangerous) conditions

Observable factors to consider for **not seeking Necessary Medical Care** due to mental health symptoms and/or substance use:

Uncontrolled bleeding/Coughing or vomiting blood
Cold/Clammy skin
Seizure/convulsions
Complaint of severe pain or severe injury
Non-healing wound or potential infection
Extreme or profuse sweating
Disclosure of untreated medical conditions causing risk for serious harm
Uncontrollable vomiting
Diminished responsiveness or loss of consciousness
Potential loss of limb(s) due to untreated condition

This Quick Pocket Guide should only be used in conjunction with SB 43 First Responder Training and should not be used without proper training.