

24 Warning Signs of Adolescent Drug or Alcohol Substance Use Disorder

1. Loss of interest in hobbies, sports or other favorite activities
2. School grades have declined dramatically
3. Difficult time concentrating on tasks
4. Change in sleeping patterns, up all-night or sleeping all day
5. Withdrawn, depressed, tired, careless, or manipulative
6. Hostile, disrespectful, untruthful, and uncooperative
7. Relationships with family members and friends have deteriorated
8. Money is missing from the household
9. An increase in borrowing money from family members and friends
10. Physical health has declined, bloodshot eyes, bulging veins, runny nose
11. Dramatic mood swings
12. Missing prescription drugs, cold medicines, alcohol, aerosol containers in the home
13. Increased secrecy about possessions or activities
14. Personal hygiene has deteriorated
15. Dramatic weight loss
16. Finding drug paraphernalia hidden in the home i.e., pipes, rolling papers, eye drops, butane lighters, soft drink containers made into pipes, etc.
17. Inhalant products, rags, computer duster, paint, nail polish, paper or plastic bags, etc. hidden in the home
18. Truancy and tardiness to school or a job
19. Changes in fashion, hairstyle, use of breath mints, fascination with the drug culture
20. Sudden change in friends, numerous secretive phone calls
21. Use of room deodorant or incense in their room
22. Physically abusive, aggressive, punching holes in walls, etc.
23. Has anyone told you that your child is using drugs?
24. Odd phone calls, sneaking out of the house, etc.

