

Conditions that Decrease Risk and Increase Chances for Successful Treatment

- Parents acknowledge their substance abuse and fully understand the negative impact it has on their children.
- Parents are willing to engage in some form of substance abuse treatment and attempt to remain involved in a treatment program. This may include self-help and peer-help organizations such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.
- Parents make alternative care giving arrangements for their children when they recognize themselves to be incapable of providing proper care.
- Parents are willing and able to separate themselves from friends, family members, spouses, or others who continue to use drugs.
- Parents have a strong support network of family and friends who do not use drugs, and who support their attempts to discontinue drug use.
- Parents have a history of adequate social, occupational, and personal functioning prior to the onset of drug use.
- Parents are able to recognize when a relapse is likely, and make plans for their children, call in friends or family members to provide care for the children, or seek help.
- Parents exhibit shame and distress about the effects of drug use on their parenting.
- Parents have a history of successful parenting prior to the onset of drug use, and have a strong identity as a parent.

