**Person Centered Language**

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| **Instead of this…** | **Use this…** |
| Alcoholic | A person with Substance Use Disorder |
| Crackhead | A person with Substance Use Disorder |
| Junky | A person with Substance Use Disorder |
| Addict | A person with Substance Use Disorder |
| Drug habit | Substance Use Disorder  |
| Drug abuser | A person with Substance Use Disorder  |
| Clean | Abstinent  |
| Dirty | Active addiction or Actively using  |
| Clean drug screen | A urine screen testing negative for substances |
| Dirty urine screen | A urine screen testing positive for substances |
| Reformed addict | Person in recovery or Person in long-term recovery |
| Methadone maintenance | Medication Assisted Treatment or Medication Assisted Recovery |
| Relapse | Recurrence of symptoms |

The National Alliance of Advocates for Buprenorphine Treatment (NAABT) provides a [2-page handout](https://www.naabt.org/documents/NAABT_Language.pdf) with more information on language that includes how words further harm those in need of treatment or those in recovery.