

Definition

Substance dependence

Addiction Ontology

Definition: A bodily disposition which is realised as impaired functioning following reduction or termination of use of a psychoactive substance as a result of long-term physiological adaptation to that substance.

Comment: This is distinguished from addiction. The two are often correlated but distinct. Dependence is a disposition to experience impaired functioning, which includes withdrawal symptoms, while addiction is a disposition to experience powerful motivation. The motivation can, but need not be caused by impaired functioning.

This definition was imported from the Addiction Ontology (see <https://addictovocab.org/>). Comments and suggestions for improvements are welcome using the Qeios review system.

Definitions imported from the Addiction Ontology (AddictO) are what are known as 'ontological definitions'. See this article in Qeios for an explanation <https://www.qeios.com/read/YGIF9B>.

Ontological definitions can sometimes be hard to read. In those cases we also include an informal definition.

Definitions also often require elaboration to make it clear how they should be used and what they include. In those cases we include a comment.

Also, definitions sometimes require an explanation as to how they came about to help users understand how they relate to alternative definitions. In those cases we include a curator note.