DOCUMENTATION REFERENCE CARD
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

Documentation Considerations

- **Document the pattern:**
  - **Use**
  - **Abuse**
  - **Dependency**
- **Identify the substance (nicotine, alcohol, etc.)**
- **Specify if remission has been achieved**
- **Document associated psychological complications (delirium, psychosis, anxiety, sleep disorders, etc.)**

Diagnosis Considerations

- **Correctly distinguish abuse from dependence**
- **Select the appropriate code that reflects the correct substance**
  - **Alcohol**
  - **Opioid**
  - **Cannabis**
  - **Sedative**
  - **Stimulant**
  - **Hallucinogen**
  - **Inhalant**
  - **"Other"**

Additional Considerations

- **Document all**
  - **Successful or unsuccessful cessation**
  - **Weaning or decreasing dose attempts or rehab**
- **Identify impact on social, occupational or interpersonal relationships**
- **Document tolerance and/or withdrawal symptoms (physical or psychological)**
- **Interpret results of "positive" alcohol/drug screenings**

HIGHMARK | HIGHMARK

NOTE: This tool is intended to assist with documentation only and not intended to take the place of clinical analysis. Information regarding any law or regulation does not constitute legal or tax advice and is subject to change based upon the issuance of new guidance and/or change in laws or regulations. Reference Official ICD-10-CM coding guidelines and manuals or electronic medical coding software for accurate ICD-10-CM codes and specificity.

Rev. 10.2022