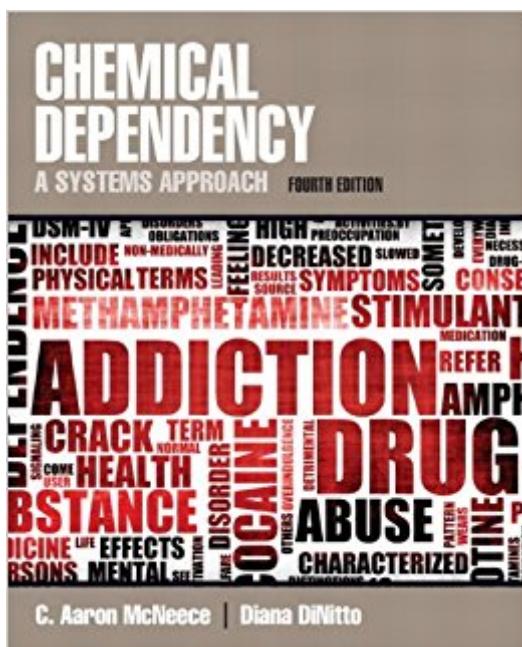


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# Chemical Dependency: A Systems Approach (4th Edition)



## **Synopsis**

Comprehensive presentation of substance abuse with the most recent issues in epidemiology, etiology, substance abuse policy, and treatment. The book looks at substance abuse from a systems perspective. It presents all major theories of addiction, as well as the major physiological and psychological results of substance abuse, including fetal alcohol syndrome. Coverage of the latest developments in treatment (including pharmacological approaches), recent research on treatment outcomes, and a comprehensive discussion of etiological theories, including genetics, is included. This edition contains an up-to-date discussion of the most recent trends in designer drugs to help explain the considerable frequency of changes in which drug use patterns occur.

**Learning Goals**

- Upon completing this book, readers should be able to:
- Understand at-risk drinking and substance disorders, including how to identify these problems, how to intervene once they have been identified, and how to make referrals
- Identify approaches to help clients avoid or address substance use disorders
- Examine current information on the most rigorous scientific studies of treatment effectiveness
- Trace the development of new medication-assisted treatments

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 600 pages

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## **Customer Reviews**

This well-respected text on substance abuse takes a comprehensive look at chemical dependency, covering the most recent issues in the areas of epidemiology, etiology, substance abuse policy, and treatment. *Chemical Dependency: A Systems Approach, Third Edition*, looks at substance abuse from a systems perspective, making it particularly appropriate for social work students who are

accustomed to a "person-in-environment" approach. All major theories of addiction are presented, as well as the major physiological and psychological results of substance abuse, including fetal alcohol syndrome. Coverage of the latest developments in treatment and research incorporates the most recent findings on genetic causes of alcoholism. This edition includes an up-to-date discussion of the most recent trends in designer drugs, to account for the considerable frequency in which drug use patterns occur. In addition, the most recent policy changes at the state, federal, and international levels have been added. **What's New to This Edition** APA format is used throughout the entire text, making footnotes and references more manageable and easier to follow. New chapter on the neurobiology of addiction provides the most current information on the consequences and causes of substance abuse problems (Ch. 2). A list of resources at the end of each chapter provides students with mailing addresses and websites for additional information on each subject. **This is the best text on substance abuse for social work published. It's as classic a text for social work as Oakley Ray's pharmacology text of the 80s and 90s.** Paul R. Raffoul, University of Houston **The authors have a good writing style. They write clearly and have the unique ability to simplify the most difficult concepts so that students can comprehend them.** The authors are careful and exhibit consistent use of a preliminary explanatory section of each part of the textbook. **Arturo Acosta, El Paso Community College**

\*\*\*\*\* **Allyn & Bacon's Career Center offers registered students eight 30-minute sessions with a career specialist. This \$25.00 retail value is FREE when packaged with any Social Work textbook. For more information visit [www.ablongman.com/careercenter](http://www.ablongman.com/careercenter) or contact your local Allyn & Bacon publisher's representative.**

\*\*\*\*\* **--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.**

C. Aaron McNeece was a social work educator for 34 years, after working as a correctional social worker. He has conducted extensive research on both substance abuse and criminal justice issues. **He served for 10 years as the director of the Institute for Health and Human Services Research at Florida State University, where he was also the Walter W. Hudson Professor of Social Work and later, Dean of the College of Social Work.** **He is currently Professor and Dean Emeritus.** Diana DiNitto is Cullen Trust Centennial Professor of Alcohol Studies and Education and Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Texas at Austin where she teaches courses in social welfare policy, alcohol and drug problems, research, and pedagogy. She has a MSW degree and a Ph.D. in government from Florida State University. She has worked in a detoxification center, halfway house,

and outpatient chemical dependency treatment program. She is also coauthor of Chemical Dependency: A Systems Approach, 4th ed. (Pearson, Summer 2011) and Social Work: Issues and Opportunities in a Challenging Profession, 3rd ed. (Lyceum Books, 2008). Her research is on substance abuse, violence against women, and social welfare policy. Dr. DiNitto has served on the boards of the Council and Social Work Education, the Association of Medical Education and Research on Substance Abuse, and the Texas Research Society on Alcoholism. She currently chairs the NASW Press Book Committee. She has been a visiting professor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and the University of Sydney (Australia). Recently she gave the Robert J. O'Leary Memorial Lecture at Ohio State University entitled "Ending America's Ambivalence in the War on Drugs" and presented invited testimony on drug policy to the United States Sentencing Commission.

I was required to take this course in a masters level program and it is not my area of interest. That being said, this book did a great job of putting things in lay terms so it is easily understandable. I will say that it gets very "wordy" and draws things out more than necessary. It does not always flow well, switching without always giving notice from alcohol to drugs and back, leaving with the need to reread a few lines to make sure you are still on the same topic. I was impressed that it talked about alcohol, nicotine, and even caffeine as a drug. Further, it gave a very unbiased view on societally controversial topics such as marijuana use, simply sticking to the basic facts. Because of this, it did not put unfair weight to any given substance. Additionally, it breaks down abuse by ethnicities, geographic area, age, gender, and more. It is basically a well-rounded text book. It uses the addiction as a disease approach, and does not focus all of its attention on 12-step programs, while giving them a fair review. It is rather long, but not the worse textbook I have ever read.

This book was for my online course studies. If someone is interested in becoming an Addiction Counselor, this book is very informative about addictions, how they are formed, the assistance offered to those addicted. How to help those who are addicted, etc. etc.

This book was a headache to read -- it's organized terribly and written in stiff language (stiff like pedestrian, like it lacks soul or character). Read "In The Realm of The Hungry Ghosts" by Dr. Gabor Maté instead ;)

The book arrived with the cover ripped, but the inside of the book was awesome. Helped me in my

substance abuse course.

Boring as dirt, but if this is what is needed for your class, then go for it.

great book

Love it

Yes

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