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Section B

Terms and Factors Influencing Abuse
Definitions of Terms

- **Use:** taking in of a psychoactive substance
- **Abuse:** continued use despite persistent or recurrent social, occupational, psychological or physical consequences
- **Dependence:** habitual, compulsive use of a substance over prolonged period of time
Dependence

- **Psychological**: emotional and mental preoccupation with the drug’s pleasurable effects
- **Physiological**: physical dependence occurs when the body adjusts to the drug’s effects so that discomfort occurs when the drug is withdrawn
Factors Influencing Severity

- Age
- Solitary drug use
- Means of acquiring drugs
- Motivation for use
- Multiple drug use
- Behaviors while using