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JOHNS HOPKINS  
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## *Section B*

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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physical dependence occurs when the body adjusts to the drug's effects so that discomfort occurs when the drug is withdrawn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