

24 Points to Consider When Choosing a Drug Treatment Facility for an Adolescent

1. The facility should be certified by a national drug treatment organization
2. How will the facility provide the tools and skills necessary for the adolescent to treat their substance use disorder?
3. The facility should accept health insurance plans
4. Detox treatment and care should be available
5. Does the facility provide education about the disease to all family members?
6. Various levels of care and programs are available based on the patient's needs
7. Treats the disease as one that affects the entire family
8. Specializes in the treatment of adolescent substance use disorder
9. How is the evaluation and assessment of potential patients handled?
10. Is there a physician on staff who specializes in substance use disorder?
11. Are there after care programs available
12. Is the facility willing to work with families on a payment program for services not covered by insurance?
13. What rules are the patients and their families expected to follow?
14. Is the location convenient to make attendance at programs more likely?
15. Are there AA, NA, CA and Al-Anon meetings available on site?
16. Is the facility clean and well maintained?
17. If your adolescent is in an in-patient program, are tutors available to assist with missed schoolwork?
18. Is there a parent support group or network available?
19. Are patient and family confidentiality respected and adhered to?
20. Are there programs available to help keep adolescents connected to their recovery after treatment is finished?
21. In patient programs should provide food service with menus formulated to help patient's bodies recover
22. Will the facility recommend programs at other treatment facilities if circumstances warrant?
23. Does the facility provide counseling sessions with the family to plan for the recovery process?
24. Is programming available to help siblings of the adolescent in their recovery?

