



SA Federation for
Mental Health

OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE AND RELATED DISORDERS

SUBSTANCE/MEDICATION-INDUCED OBSESSIVE- COMPULSIVE AND RELATED DISORDER

What it is:

Substance/medication-induced obsessive compulsive disorder is any form of obsessive compulsive behaviour, such as obsessions, compulsions, hair pulling, skin picking or other body focused repetitive behaviours, which result directly from taking or withdrawal from a specific substance/medication. For this diagnosis to be made, the obsessive-compulsive symptoms must start soon after or during the individual taking the substance/medication, or during withdrawal from the substance/medication. The nature of the substance taken, as well as the mental health history of the individual must also be taken into account.

Common Symptoms:

1. Obsessions, (recurrent thoughts, urges or images) or compulsions (repetitive behaviours or mental acts that the individual feels compelled to do in response to an obsession or according to rigid rules)
2. Skin picking
3. Hair pulling
4. Body dysmorphia or body focused repetitive behaviour
5. These symptoms began shortly after or during taking a specific substance/medication, or during withdrawal

Causes:

Substance/medication-induced obsessive-compulsive disorders are caused by a specific substance or medication that has been taken, or is being withdrawn from the body. There are a number of substances and medications that could potentially cause these symptoms to develop, such as:

1. Amphetamines
2. Cocaine
3. Other stimulants