7 Warning Signs of a High-Functioning Opioid Addict

by Impact Wellness Network | Mar 30, 2024 | Addiction Treatment

Opioid addiction has become an epidemic in many countries, with millions of people struggling with this dangerous substance. It's easy to assume that opioid addicts are always easily identifiable due to their extreme behaviors and physical appearance. However, the reality is that many opioid addicts may seem like high-functioning individuals, making it difficult to spot the warning signs of addiction.

According to a study by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, about 80% of people who use heroin first misused prescription opioids. This alarming statistic highlights the need for more awareness and understanding of opioid addiction, especially among high-functioning individuals who may not fit the stereotypical image of an addict.

Here we will discuss seven warning signs of a high-functioning opioid addict.

Changes in Behavior and Mood

One of the most evident signs of opioid addiction is changes in behavior and mood. High-functioning addicts may seem to have it all together on the surface, but behind closed doors, they may be struggling with intense mood swings, irritability, and unexplained changes in behavior. This could be due to the constant need for opioids to maintain a normal state of being.

Struggling with Responsibilities

High-functioning opioid addicts may still manage to fulfill their responsibilities at work, school, or home. However, as addiction takes hold, it becomes increasingly challenging for them to meet these obligations as they struggle with the effects of opioid use. This could result in missed deadlines, poor performance, or even loss of jobs.

Isolation and Secrecy

Opioid addiction can lead to isolation and secrecy. High-functioning addicts may start distancing themselves from friends and family, avoiding social activities, and becoming secretive about their actions. They may also start spending a lot of time alone and refuse to discuss their whereabouts or activities.

Financial Issues

Opioid addiction can take a toll on an individual's financial stability. High-functioning addicts may find themselves constantly struggling with money, despite having well-paying jobs. This could be due to the high cost of opioids or the inability to hold onto a job due to addiction. They may also start borrowing money from friends and family or engaging in risky behaviors, such as stealing, to support their addiction.

Physical Changes

While high-functioning opioid addicts may not exhibit extreme physical changes like other types of drug addicts, there are still noticeable signs to look out for. These include weight loss, lack of energy, and changes in sleep patterns. They may also have track marks or bruises on their arms from injecting opioids.

Increased Tolerance

As with any addiction, tolerance is a significant warning sign. High-functioning opioid addicts may start needing larger doses of the drug to achieve the same effect as before. This can lead to them taking more than they should or even combining opioids with other drugs to intensify the high.

Inability to Quit

One of the most critical warning signs of a high-functioning opioid addict is their inability to quit using despite wanting to. They may make multiple attempts at quitting but struggle with intense withdrawal symptoms and cravings, leading them back to opioid use. This cycle can be dangerous and difficult to break without proper support and treatment.

Contact Impact Wellness Network Today

It's essential to be aware of the warning signs of opioid addiction, especially among high-functioning individuals. If you or a loved one is exhibiting these signs, it's crucial to seek help from a professional addiction treatment center like Impact Wellness Network.

Our team of experts can provide personalized care and support for those struggling with opioid addiction. Don't wait until it's too late; reach out for help today. Remember, recovery is possible with the right support and treatment.

Contact Impact Wellness Network today and take the first step towards a healthier and happier life free from opioid addiction. Let's work together to fight against this epidemic and create a brighter future for ourselves and our loved ones.

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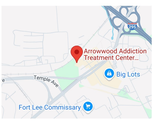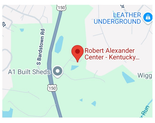
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