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ASAM defines addiction

_____ as a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment, and an individual's life experiences.ⁱ Most recently, in ASAM's [Public Policy Statement on Advancing Racial Justice in Addiction Medicine](#),ⁱⁱ ASAM reiterated that social and economic factors can influence substance use and addiction and contribute to racial health disparities. Indeed, ASAM members have long understood that nonmedical factors impact the health outcomes and wellbeing of people suffering with addiction, as demonstrated in

is the nation's most widely used and comprehensive set of guidelines for placement, continued stay, and transfer/discharge of patients with addiction and co-