Knowledge Exchange
Provincial Addiction & Mental Health

Addiction and Mental Health Mobile Apps Directory January 2024



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For citation purposes, please use the following format: Alberta Health Services. (2024). *Addiction and Mental Health Mobile Apps Directory*.

About this directory

This document provides a directory of mobile applications (apps) that may be used as aids in mental health or addiction conditions. This information was gathered from various organizational websites and other sources in the public domain, and provides a brief overview of available evidence-based apps related to addiction and mental health. Apps have been grouped into categories of disorders according to the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, 5th edition (DSM-5) (American Psychiatric Association, 2013).

Intended audience

This directory may be useful for:

- Clinicians looking for information about apps related to mental health or addiction for their patients. (Note: We encourage further evaluation and clinical judgment before recommending apps to patients.)
- Clinicians looking for technologies to supplement care.
- Researchers interested in learning about mobile health technology.
- · App developers identifying gaps in the current app market.

Search

A comprehensive search for apps was conducted in Google and academic databases (e.g., MEDLINE, PsycINFO). Apps were also identified from organizational websites, news articles, and other information sources in the public domain.

Effectiveness of mental health apps

There is a wealth of commercial mental health apps available to smartphone users. Apps are viewed as a promising alternative to traditional face-to-face mental health care by offering tools of assessment, tracking, and treatment through the convenience of a handheld device (Van Ameringen et al., 2017). They have the potential to overcome treatment barriers, such as geographic location and financial cost, and to provide effective interventions for clinical populations. In recent years, there has been an increase in research examining mental health apps' efficacy and effectiveness, although more research is needed to determine long-term outcomes (Fowler et al., 2016; Magee et al., 2018; Rathbone et al., 2017; Rathbone & Prescott, 2017; Van Ameringen et al., 2017).

There is some evidence suggesting that mental health interventions delivered via smartphone devices may help improve certain mental health conditions, such as anxiety and depression (Dubad et al., 2018; Firth et al., 2017a and 2017b; Karyotaki et al., 2021; Lecomte et al., 2020; Linardon et al., 2019; Weisel et al., 2019) and in some cases of tobacco dependence (Regmi et

al., 2017; Weisel et al., 2019; Whittaker et al., 2019). However, it is not yet clear if app interventions can be as effective as traditional treatments. While many Canadians have reported that they believe apps can help them cope with mental illness (Ipsos, 2018), evidence suggests that user engagement with mental health apps can be low (Baumel et al., 2019; Torous et al., 2019).

As such, patients and healthcare providers should be cautious when selecting apps for treatment to ensure they are evidence-based, user-friendly, and engaging.

Selecting and evaluating apps

Due to the large number of mental health apps available, it can be a challenge to identify apps that are user-friendly and clinically effective. Most people searching for apps rely on app store ratings as an indication of an app's quality. Unfortunately, these ratings are based on subjective experiences of users, typically from a usability or visual standpoint, and do not reflect an app's quality in terms of improving health outcomes (Bidargaddi et al., 2017). In addition, mental health app descriptions often include claims about their effectiveness, but research has found that these claims are rarely based on high-quality evidence (Larsen et al., 2019).

In an effort to enhance app assessment, several evaluation tools have been developed, including:

- The Mental Health Commission of Canada's <u>Mental Health Apps: How to Make an</u> Informed Choice framework
- The American Psychiatric Association's App Evaluation Model
- The Canadian Medical Association's <u>Guiding Principles for Physicians Recommending</u>
 Mobile Health Applications to Patients
- The Mobile App Rating Scale (MARS)

Common evaluation criteria for mental health apps include:

- Classification (intended audience, program aim)
- Usability (ease of use, navigation)
- Visual design (aesthetics, layout)
- User engagement (interactivity, personalization)
- Business model (for-profit, not-for-profit)
- Privacy and security (terms of use, secure data, information sharing with third parties)
- Credibility (owner's credibility, evidence-based program, third-party endorsement)
- Content (evidence-based content, quality of information)
- Therapeutic persuasiveness (therapeutic rationale and pathway, ongoing feedback) (Baumel et al., 2017; Bidargaddi et al., 2017; Chan et al., 2017; Torous et al., 2019; Zelmer et al., 2018).

Inclusion criteria for this directory

We include apps that have supporting evidence (such as research articles or positive expert reviews). When supporting evidence has been identified, a link to the source is provided.

In rare cases, we will include apps that do not have supporting evidence. In these cases, we include the apps only if:

- There are very few apps on a particular topic, and we want to provide a starting point.
- The app is created by a known reliable source.

Beyond identifying supporting evidence, we do not evaluate the apps in this directory. We recommend that you personally evaluate app quality before use—the tools listed in the "Selection and evaluation of apps" section above may be useful for this.

Conflicts of interest

In some cases, one or more authors of a research article we've included as supporting evidence may have a potential conflict of interest. For example, an author may be a co-developer of an app or co-founder of the company that owns an app. We do not identify conflicts of interest in this directory. It is the reader's responsibility to do so.

Directory format

Information is provided in a standard format throughout this directory. The apps have been divided into categories based on their intended addiction or mental health use.

Major Disorder Category

Specific Disorder Category

App Name

Developer (Year of last update)

Cost*

Available on: iOS | Android

Summary of the main features of the app.

Supporting evidence:

• Links to available research studies or expert reviews

This app also applies to:

• DSM-5 section number and name for additional relevant conditions (if applicable)

*Cost Legend:

- » Free
- » \$ = \$1-\$5.99
- » \$\$ = \$6-\$10.99
- » \$\$\$ = \$11-\$20.99
- » \$\$\$\$ = \$21-\$50
- » \$\$\$\$\$ = More than \$50

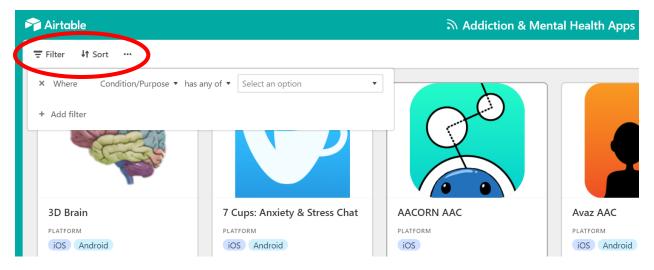
Note:

Apps listed as Free might also have "in-app" add-ons that have a cost associated with them.

Online version of this directory

This directory is also available as an <u>online database</u>. This version is hosted on the free Airtable platform. It looks similar to an Excel spreadsheet, but is more flexible for sorting and filtering the information that interests you (see below). You can also print the filtered database, or download the data in CSV format.

The **top menu bar** includes all the options for manipulating the data.



Note that you can apply **multiple filters** to limit results by cost, platform, disorder, main features, target population, and supporting evidence.

1.0 Neurodevelopmental Disorders

1.1 Communication Disorders & Autism Spectrum Disorders

These articles may be helpful in choosing an appropriate app for children with autism:

- <u>iPads and the Use of "Apps" by Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: Do They Promote Learning?</u> (2016) See "Recommendations for app use"
- Evaluating iPad Technology for Enhancing Communication Skills of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (2015)

Avaz AAC

Avaz, Inc. (2023)

\$\$\$\$\$

Available on: iOS | Android

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) app for children and adults with complex communication needs. Uses a variety of learning and speech therapy tools to help children and adults communicate.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Sonawane & Varshneya, 2020)
- Research study (Sreekumar et al., 2020)
- Research study (Sankardas & Rajanahally, 2017)

Language Therapy for Children (MITA)

ImagiRation LLC (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Mental Imagery Therapy for Autism (MITA) is an early-intervention app for children with language delay and autism spectrum disorder. MITA aims to train mental integration and receptive language, starting with simple vocabulary, and progressing towards higher forms of language, such as adjectives, verbs, pronouns, and syntax.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Vyshedskiy et al., 2020)
- Research study (Dunn et al., 2017)

Naming Therapy

Tactus Therapy Solutions Ltd. (2023) \$\$\$

Available on: iOS | Android

Helps people with communication disorders and children with special needs practice naming and description skills.

Supporting evidence:

• Research study (Vaezipour et al., 2020)

Proloquo2Go

AssistiveWare (2023) \$\$\$\$\$

Available on: iOS

Augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) app for people who have difficulty speaking. Uses a variety of methods including picture symbols and text-to-speech voices to help people communicate effectively.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Nakkawita et al., 2021)
- Research study (Collette et al., 2019)
- Research study (Alzrayer et al., 2017)
- Research study (Krcek, 2015)

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

1.2 Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

This article may be helpful in choosing an appropriate app for individuals with ADHD:

ADHD: Harnessing the Power of Technology & Apps (2020)

Evernote

Evernote Corporation (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Evernote is a planner app that helps its users organize their work in multiple formats, syncs content across devices, and allows for sharing and collaboration.

Supporting evidence:

• Research study (Moëll et al., 2015)

Inflow ADHD

Get Inflow Ltd. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Inflow is based on Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT), it helps users manage symptoms of ADHD. Offers a resource library, practical tools, coaching, and a built-in community.

Supporting evidence:

Research study (Knouse et al., 2022)

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

2.0 Schizophrenia Spectrum and Psychotic Disorders

7 Cups: Online therapy & chat

7 Cups of Tea (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides an anonymous chat messaging platform (available via the app or a web browser) for users to receive emotional support and counselling through trained volunteers and self-help tools. There is also a fee-based option to speak with certified therapists.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Comtois et al., 2022)
- Research study (Baumel et al., 2018)
- Research study (Baumel et al., 2016)
- Research study (Baumel, 2015)
- Expert review (Family Practice Management journal)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 3.0: Depressive Disorders
- DSM-5 section 4.0: Anxiety Disorders
- DSM-5 section 11.3: Stress
- DSM-5 section 12.3: On-Demand Care

Schizophrenia HealthStorylines

Self Care Catalysts Inc (2018)

Free

Available on: iOS

Developed in partnership with the Schizophrenia and Related Disorders Alliance of America (SARDAA), this app allows users to record details about symptoms, medication, moods, and more.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Torous et al., 2017)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

3.0 Depressive Disorders

7 Cups: Online therapy & chat

Available on: iOS | Android

See 2.0 Schizophrenia Spectrum and Psychotic Disorders for full description.

BreathingRoom

Canadian Institute of Natural and Integrative Medicine (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Offers strategies to help teens and young adults aged 13-24 manage their well-being. Includes videos, meditations, stories, practices and tools.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Rickhi et al., 2019)
- Research study (Rickhi et al., 2015)

MoodMission

MoodMission (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Users tell MoodMission how they're feeling and receive a tailored list of five Missions to help them feel better and improve their well-being, including mindfulness and relaxation exercises, fitness activities, and gratitude exercises.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Tan et al., 2023)
- Research study (Marshall et al., 2021)
- Research study (Aizenstros et al., 2021)
- Research study (Bakker et al., 2018)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Sanvello: Anxiety & Depression (previously Pacifica)

Sanvello Health Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Offers tools to help ease stress and anxiety, including meditations, a daily mood and goal tracker, and relaxation audio recordings.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Li et al., 2021)
- Research study (Moberg et al., 2019)
- Expert review (Anxiety and Depression Association of America)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 4.0: Anxiety Disorders
- DSM-5 section 11.3: Stress

Sinasprite

Litesprite Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

This game-based app is a self empowerment tool that leads users through various exercises, including meditation, digital painting, journaling, scheduling worries, and understanding locus of control.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Almodovar et al., 2018)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 4.0: Anxiety Disorders
- DSM-5 section 6.0: Posttraumatic Stress Disorder
- DSM-5 section 11.3: Stress

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

SuperBetter: Mental Health

SuperBetter, LLC (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

This app uses the psychology of gameplay to help users build resilience and stay motivated and optimistic to overcome life challenges.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Marshall et al., 2021)
- Research study (Devan et al., 2019)
- Research study (Roepke et al., 2015)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

Virtual Hope Box

National Center for Telehealth & Technology (2023) Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes tools to help people suffering from depression with coping, relaxation, distraction, and positive thinking. This app can be used in collaboration with a mental health provider to address specific problem areas.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Melia et al., 2020)
- Research study (Gould et al., 2019)
- Research study (Denneson et al., 2018)
- Research study (Pospos et al., 2018)
- Research study (Bush et al., 2017)
- <u>Expert review</u> (American Psychological Association)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 11.1: Suicidal Behaviour Disorder
- DSM-5 section 11.2: Nonsuicidal Self-Injury

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

Woebot

Woebot Health Inc (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Woebot is an AI-powered chatbot that guides users through the management of distressing thoughts and feelings using cognitive behavioural therapy principles.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Hoffman et al., 2023)
- Research study (Li et al., 2021)
- Research study (Prochaska et al., 2021)
- Research study (Fitzpatrick et al., 2017)
- Research study (Ly et al., 2017)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 4.0: Anxiety Disorders
- DSM-5 section 9.1: Alcohol-Related Disorders

Wysa: Anxiety, therapy chatbot

Touchkin (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Wysa is a chatbot that tracks your mood with friendly chats and helps fight stress and anxiety with a variety of tools and exercises, including calming meditation and mindfulness practices.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Leo et al., 2022)
- Research study (Malik et al., 2022)
- Research study (Meheli et al., 2022)
- Research study (Kretzschmar et al., 2019)
- Research study (Inkster et al., 2018)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 4.0: Anxiety Disorders
- DSM-5 section 11.3: Stress

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4.0 Anxiety Disorders

7 Cups: Online therapy & chat

Available on: iOS | Android

See 2.0 Schizophrenia Spectrum and Psychotic Disorders for full description.

Calm: Meditate, Sleep, Relax

Calm.com, Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Helps users reduce stress and anxiety, improve sleep, and relax through the practice of mindfulness and meditation. Audio sessions range from 3 to 25 minutes, and the app tracks users' daily streaks and time spent meditating.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Comtois et al., 2022)
- Research study (Huberty et al., 2021)
- Research study (Laird et al., 2021)
- Research study (Clarke & Draper, 2020)
- Research study (Huberty et al., 2019a)
- Research study (Huberty et al., 2019b)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 8.0: Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders
- DSM-5 section 11.3: Stress
- DSM-5 section 11.4: Sleep

Headspace: Mindful Meditation

Headspace Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes hundreds of guided meditations on a wide range of topics, including sleep, focus, and exercise. Users can track their progress and time spent meditating. The free version is limited, but users can subscribe for expanded offerings.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Abbott et al., 2023)
- Research study (Taylor et al., 2022)
- Research study (O'Daffer et al., 2022)
- Research study (Haliwa et al., 2021)
- Research study (Flett et al., 2020)
- Research study (Bostock et al., 2019)
- Research study (Champion et al., 2018)
- Research study (Economides et al., 2018)
- Research study (Howells et al., 2016)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)
- Expert review (Anxiety and Depression Association of America)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)

This app also applies to:

- DSM-5 section 8.0: Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders
- DSM-5 section 11.3: Stress
- DSM-5 section 11.4: Sleep

MindShift CBT - Anxiety Relief

Anxiety Canada Association (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Designed to help users cope with anxiety. In addition to providing strategies to deal with everyday anxiety, this app also offers specific tools to tackle issues like social anxiety and perfectionism.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Marshall et al., 2021)
- Research study (Paul & Fleming, 2019)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (Anxiety and Depression Association of America)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)

Sanvello for Stress & Anxiety (previously Pacifica)

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

Sinasprite

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

Woebot

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

Wysa: Anxiety, therapy chatbot

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

5.0 Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder

OCD.app (previously GG OCD)

Ggtude Ltd (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Aims to improve OCD symptoms by increasing the user's awareness of negative thoughts and training the brain to challenge them and overcome them. There are more than 40 levels to complete, which consist of short games with its own theme, such as positive self-task, self-esteem, belief in change, self-criticism, negative thinking, and coping.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Gamoran & Doron, 2023)
- Research study (Akin-Sari et al., 2022)
- Research study (Cerea et al., 2020)
- Research study (Roncero et al., 2019)
- Research study (Pascual-Vera et al., 2018)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

NOCD

NOCD INC (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Designed for people with OCD, it matches users with licensed OCD therapists who are trained in exposure and response prevention (ERP). It offers online therapy sessions and other supports and provides a variety of personalized features to complement ongoing treatment.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Feusner et al., 2022)
- Research study (Gershkovich et al., 2021)
- Research study (Hong et al., 2020)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

6.0 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

PTSD Coach

US Department of Veterans Affairs (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides information about PTSD, self-assessment tools, support opportunities, and tools to manage post-traumatic stress.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Hensler et al., 2023)
- Research study (Hallenbeck et al., 2022)
- Research study (Hensler et al., 2022)
- Research study (Kuhn et al., 2017)
- Research study (Possemato et al., 2016)
- Expert review (Beacon)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (Anxiety and Depression Association of America)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)

PTSD Coach Canada

Veterans Affairs Canada (2019)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Supplies information and self-help tools that aid individuals to learn about and manage symptoms after trauma. Also includes direct links to support.

Supporting evidence:

• Research study (Kuhn et al., 2018)

PTSD Family Coach

US Department of Veterans Affairs (2021)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Designed for family members of those living with PTSD, this app provides extensive information about PTSD, how to take care of yourself, how to take care of your relationship with your loved one or with children, and how to help your loved one get treatment.

Supporting evidence:

• Research study (Nolan et al., 2019)

Sinasprite

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

VetChange

US Department of Veterans Affairs (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

VetChange is designed for veterans, military members or anybody who is concerned about their drinking and post-traumatic stress after deployment. The app provides tools for cutting down or quitting drinking and managing stress symptoms, as well as education about alcohol use and how it relates to post-traumatic stress symptoms.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Newberger et al., 2022)
- Research study (Enggasser et al., 2021)
- Research study (Livingston et al., 2021)
- Research study (Livingston et al., 2020)
- Research study (Brief et al., 2018)
- Research study (Enggasser et al., 2015)
- <u>Expert review</u> (MindTools.io)

This app also applies to:

DSM-5 section 9.1: Alcohol-Related Disorders

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

7.0 Feeding and Eating Disorders

Body+

Ggtude Ltd (2022)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes a wide range of features to help users focus on body positivity and acceptance.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Cerea et al., 2022)
- Research study (Cerea et al., 2021)
- Research study (Aboody et al., 2020)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Recovery Record for Clinicians

Recovery Record (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Designed for clinicians who treat eating disorders. With permission from the client, it links with the client's RR Eating Disorder Management self-monitoring app (listed below) to help clinicians track client data and outcomes.

Supporting evidence:

• See description for RR Eating Disorder Management below.

RR Eating Disorder Management

Recovery Record (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Allows users to keep a record of meals, thoughts, and feelings. Users can customize meal plans, receive and send anonymous encouraging messages to users, and share progress with their treatment team.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Lindgreen et al., 2021)
- Research study (Neumayr et al., 2019)
- Research study (Tregarthen et al., 2019)
- Research study (Lindgreen et al., 2018a)
- Research study (Lindgreen et al., 2018b)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

8.0 Disruptive, Impulse-Control, and Conduct Disorders

Calm: Meditate, Sleep, Relax Available on: <u>iOS | Android</u>

Users with an active subscription can access the Calm Kids content library.

See 4.0 Anxiety Disorders for full description.

Headspace: Mindful Meditation

Available on: iOS | Android

Users with an active subscription can access Headspace for Kids content.

See 4.0 Anxiety Disorders for full description.

9.0 Substance-Related and Addictive Disorders

9.1 Alcohol-Related Disorders

Daybreak - Alcohol Support

Hello Sunday Morning (2023)

Free 3-week trial; monthly and annual subscriptions available after trial (\$\$\$ monthly). *See app description for information about sponsorship if cost is a concern.

Available on: iOS | Android

Daybreak is funded by the Australian Department of Health and offers professional coaches to help users get control of their drinking habits. Users are encouraged to make changes based on their goals and motivations through tailored activities and contribute to the online support community.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Tait et al., 2019)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

Drink Less

Robert West (2021)

Free

Available on: iOS

The app allows users to keep track of their drinking and how it changes over time, set goals for the targets that are important to them, play games designed to strengthen their resolve to drink less alcohol, and create plans to deal with situations where they may be tempted to drink.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Garnett et al., 2021)
- Research study (Garnett et al., 2019)
- Research study (Crane et al., 2018)
- Expert review (Beacon)

Saying When: How to quit drinking or cut down

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (2016)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes a variety of tools that provides step-by-step directions for users who want to quit or decrease drinking. Users complete a self-assessment and create personalized goals. Coping strategies and a drink tracker are also included.

Supporting evidence:

Research study (Tofighi et al., 2019)

Stand Down: Think Before You Drink

Here and Now Systems LLC (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS

Designed for veterans who want to reduce or stop their drinking but are hesitant or unable to access in-person treatment. Provides a comprehensive assessment of a veteran's drinking patterns, norm-based feedback, and evidence-based tools and strategies for managing cravings and changing drinking habits.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Blonigen et al., 2021)
- Research study (Blonigen et al., 2020)

Step Away: Alcohol Help

Here and Now Systems LLC (2022)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Users complete a short screening questionnaire to establish their drinking profile and risk level. The program leads users to set a goal: either to moderate their drinking or stop drinking for a set number of days. The program is designed as a sequence of steps, which are recommended to be completed daily for three months.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Dulin et al., 2022)
- Research study (Malte et al., 2021)
- Research study (Blonigen et al., 2020)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

Talk. They Hear You.

SAMHSA (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides parents and caregivers of children and teens ages 9 to 15 with tools and information to start talking with their children early about the dangers of alcohol.

VetChange

Available on: <u>iOS</u> | Android

See 6.0 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder for full description.

Woebot

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

9.2 Opioid-Related Disorders

Spotlight by Scene Health

emocha Mobile Health (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Helps patients achieve stability during buprenorphine treatment for opioid use disorder by video recording taking their dose each day and reporting side effects or symptoms. It also helps track appointments and provides general information.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Holtyn et al., 2021)
- Research study (Schramm et al., 2020)
- Expert review (Johns Hopkins Medicine)

Connect by Lifeguard

Lifeguard Health Inc (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Created by provincial and regional health authorities in British Columbia in response to the overdose crisis. The user activates the app before they take their dose. After 50 seconds the app will sound an alarm. If the user doesn't hit a button to stop the alarm, it will grow louder. After 75 seconds, a text-to-voice call will go to 911 to alert emergency medical dispatchers of a potential overdose.

9.3 Tobacco-Related Disorders

My QuitBuddy

Australian National Preventive Health Agency (2020) Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes customizable goals for different stages of readiness to quit smoking. Helps users set goals and stay motivated by achieving manageable milestones.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Peek et al., 2021)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

QuitGuide – Quit Smoking

ICF International (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Tracks cigarette cravings and moods, monitors progress toward milestones, and identifies triggers and strategies to deal with them.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Gowarty et al., 2021)
- Research study (Bricker et al., 2020)
- Research study (Bricker et al., 2014)
- Expert review (Beacon)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

Smoke Free - Quit Smoking Now

David Crane (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

This app has over 40 different evidence-based techniques to help you quit smoking. It keeps track of money saved from being smoke free and the number of cigarettes avoided. Provides information to help deal with cravings and demonstrates how users' health is improving over time.

Supporting evidence:

• Research study (Crane et al., 2019)

9.4 Gambling Disorder

Gambling Therapy

The Gordon Moody Association (2019)

Free

Available on: Android

Provides a self-assessment questionnaire for users to determine if their gambling is a problem. Includes resources and advice on how to deal with problem gambling, including mindfulness and self-help exercises, tools to block online gambling, and crisis support information.

Supporting evidence:

• Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)

10.0 Neurocognitive Disorders

10.1 Parkinson's Disease

Swallow Prompt

Speechtools Ltd (2023)

\$

Available on: iOS | Android

Helps people with neurological conditions (e.g., Parkinson's disease) remember to swallow by delivering regular and discreet prompts.

Supporting evidence:

• Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)

Walking Tall

University of New South Wales (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Helps people with Parkinson's disease to improve their walking ability. Includes a gait retraining tool that allows users to personalize their training time and pace.

Supporting evidence:

• Research study (Brodie, 2022)

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

10.2 Unspecified Neurocognitive Disorders

BrainHQ

Posit Science (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides brain exercises that adapt to each user, getting more challenging as performance improves. The free version of the app includes one exercise every day. For full access, a subscription is required.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Meltzer et al., 2023)
- Research study (Nguyen et al., 2022)
- Research study (Pressler et al., 2022)
- Research study (Knoefel et al., 2018)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

CogniFit

CogniFit Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Uses brain exercises to evaluate and improve users' cognitive abilities. Includes brain challenges, memory games, puzzles, intelligence games, educational, and learning games.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Embon-Magal et al., 2022)
- Research study (Nguyen et al., 2022)
- Research study (Bahar-Fuchs et al., 2020)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

11.0 Other Conditions

11.1 Suicidal Behaviour Disorder

Hope by CAMH

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Guides users through creating a personalized suicide safety plan to help when they are feeling sad or hopeless, or experiencing thoughts of suicide. The plan can be developed together with a healthcare professional but can also be built with the help of another trusted person. There is also general information on suicide prevention and crisis and support resources.

Stay Alive

Grassroots Suicide Prevention (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes suicide prevention resources, a safety plan, customizable reasons for living, and a "life box" where users can store photos that are important to them.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Kent Surrey Sussex Academic Health Science Network, 2020)
- Research study (Pospos et al., 2018)

AHS does not endorse or recommend any of the products or services listed in this document.

Suicide Safe by SAMHSA

SAMHSA (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

This learning tool offers tips and advice for care providers who are helping individuals cope with suicidal ideation. The app offers tips on how to communicate effectively with clients and their families, determine appropriate next steps, and make referrals to treatment and community resources.

Supporting evidence:

• Expert review (American Psychological Association)

Virtual Hope Box

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

11.2 Nonsuicidal Self-Injury

Calm Harm

Stem4 (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Using principles from dialectical behaviour therapy (DBT), this app directs the user to "ride the wave" of the urge to self-harm. The user can choose 5- or 15-minute blocks of different activities to overcome urges as they arise.

Supporting evidence:

- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)
- Expert review (The British Psychological Society)

Virtual Hope Box

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

11.3 Stress

7 Cups: Online therapy & chat

Available on: iOS | Android

See 2.0 Schizophrenia Spectrum and Psychotic Disorders for full description.

Breathe2Relax

National Center for Telehealth & Technology (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Includes stress management tools that provide information on the effects of stress on the body and practice exercises for diaphragmatic breathing.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Hoffman et al., 2019)
- Expert review (American Psychiatric Association)
- Expert review (Anxiety and Depression Association of America)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Calm: Meditate, Sleep, Relax

Available on: iOS | Android

See 4.0 Anxiety Disorders for full description.

Happify

Happify, Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Designed to help adults improve overall well-being and happiness, with influences from positive psychology, cognitive behavioural therapy, and mindfulness. Users complete happiness activities to earn points and enter to win prizes.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Boucher et al., 2022)
- Research study (Li et al., 2021)
- Research study (Parks et al., 2020)
- Research study (Hunter et al., 2019)
- Research study (Parks et al., 2018)
- Expert review (Anxiety and Depression Association of America)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Headspace: Mindful Meditation

Available on: iOS | Android

See 4.0 Anxiety Disorders for full description.

Healthy Minds Program

Healthy Minds Innovations, Inc (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

A meditation-based app that helps users manage stress. Users take a baseline survey and receive a score for each of the four pillars (Awareness, Connection, Insight, and Purpose). Users can then participate in brief courses focused on the pillars.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Hirshberg et al., 2022)
- Research study (Goldberg et al., 2020)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Sanvello for Stress & Anxiety (previously Pacifica)

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

Sinasprite

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

Smiling Mind

Smiling Mind (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Daily mindfulness meditations to help alleviate stress, anxiety, and depression. Includes programs tailored for different age groups (children, teens, adults) and settings (work, school, sports).

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Bartlett et al., 2022)
- Research study (Marshall et al., 2021)
- Research study (Flett et al., 2019)
- Research study (Mani et al., 2015)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Wysa: Anxiety, therapy chatbot

Available on: iOS | Android

See 3.0 Depressive Disorders for full description.

11.4 Sleep

Calm: Meditate, Sleep, Relax Available on: <u>iOS | Android</u>

See 4.0 Anxiety Disorders for full description.

CBT-i Coach

US Department of Veterans Affairs (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides strategies to improve sleeping habits and ease symptoms of insomnia. May be used by people engaged in cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) for insomnia.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Kaitz et al., 2023)
- Research study (Reilly et al., 2021)
- Research study (Reilly et al., 2019)
- Research study (Koffel et al., 2018)
- Research study (Miller et al., 2017)
- Expert review (American Psychiatric Association)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Headspace: Mindful Meditation

Available on: iOS | Android

See 4.0 Anxiety Disorders for full description.

Sleepio

Big Health Ltd (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Designed to help users overcome persistent sleep problems with a personalized program of cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) techniques.

Supporting evidence:

- Evidence-based guidance (National Institute for Health and Care Excellence)
- Research study (Henry et al., 2023)
- Research study (Stokes et al., 2022)
- Research study (Henry et al., 2021)
- Research study (Stott et al., 2021)
- Research study (Espie et al., 2019)
- Research study (Freeman et al., 2017)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

11.5 COVID-19-related Concerns

COVID Coach

US Department of Veterans Affairs (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Supports self-care and overall mental health during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic through: education about coping during the pandemic, tools for self-care and to improve emotional well-being, and trackers to check mood and measure growth toward personal goals.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Kirykowicz et al., 2023)
- Research study (Comtois et al., 2022)
- Research study (Jaworski et al., 2021)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

Managing your stress & anxiety: Mental health during COVID-19

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) (2021)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

This app provides information and evidence-based coping strategies to help users manage stress and anxiety during the COVID-19 pandemic.

12.0 General Information

12.1 Education Tools

mhGAP-IG 2.0 App (e-mhGAP)

Universal Projects and Tools S.L. (2020)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Official e-version of the World Health Organization's mhGAP Intervention Guide for mental, neurological, and substance use disorders in non-specialist health settings.

The Psychologist

The British Psychological Society (2023) Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Reports on the latest science of mind and behaviour, including features, news, interviews, reviews and more.

12.2 Medication Management

Dosecast - My Pill Reminder

Montuno Software, LLC (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Users receive notifications to take medications, vitamins, or birth control pills. Offers customizable dose instructions and scheduling to match specific user needs.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Backes et al., 2021)
- Research study (Wu et al., 2018)
- Research study (Santo et al., 2016)

Epocrates

Epocrates, Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides a wide range of information and supports for healthcare providers regarding drug prescribing practices.

Supporting evidence:

• Expert review (Journal of Digital Imaging)

Medisafe Pill Reminder

MediSafe Inc. (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Helps users take their medicine on time. Also allows users to engage their families or caregivers to assist with their medication management.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Backes et al., 2021)
- Research study (Diaz-Skeete et al., 2021)
- Research study (Huang et al., 2019)
- Research study (Santo et al., 2016)
- Expert review (Healthify New Zealand)
- Expert review (Journal of Nurse Practitioners)

12.3 On-Demand Care

7 Cups: Online therapy & chat

Available on: iOS | Android

See 2.0 Schizophrenia Spectrum and Psychotic Disorders for full description.

PocketWell

Wellness Together Canada (2023)

Free

Available on: iOS | Android

Connects Canadians with professional mental health and substance use supports.

Talkspace Counseling & Therapy

Talkspace (2023) \$\$\$\$\$

Available on: iOS | Android

Provides unlimited access to on-demand therapy and counselling from a licensed therapist.

Supporting evidence:

- Research study (Darnell et al., 2022)
- Research study (Hull et al., 2020)
- Research study (DellaCrosse et al., 2019)
- Expert review (MindTools.io)
- Expert review (PsyberGuide)

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