Types of Prevention

**Universal** | Universal interventions target the general population and are not directed at a specific risk group. Addresses an entire population.

**Selective** | Selective interventions target those at higher-than-average risk for substance abuse; individuals are identified by the magnitude and nature of risk factors for substance abuse to which they are exposed. Selective prevention measures target subsets of the total population that are considered at risk for substance abuse by virtue of their membership in a particular segment of the population.

**Indicated** | Indicated interventions target those already using or engaged in other high-risk behaviors to prevent heavy or chronic use. Indicated prevention measures are designed to prevent the onset of substance abuse in individuals who do not meet the medical criteria for addiction, but who are showing early danger signs.