

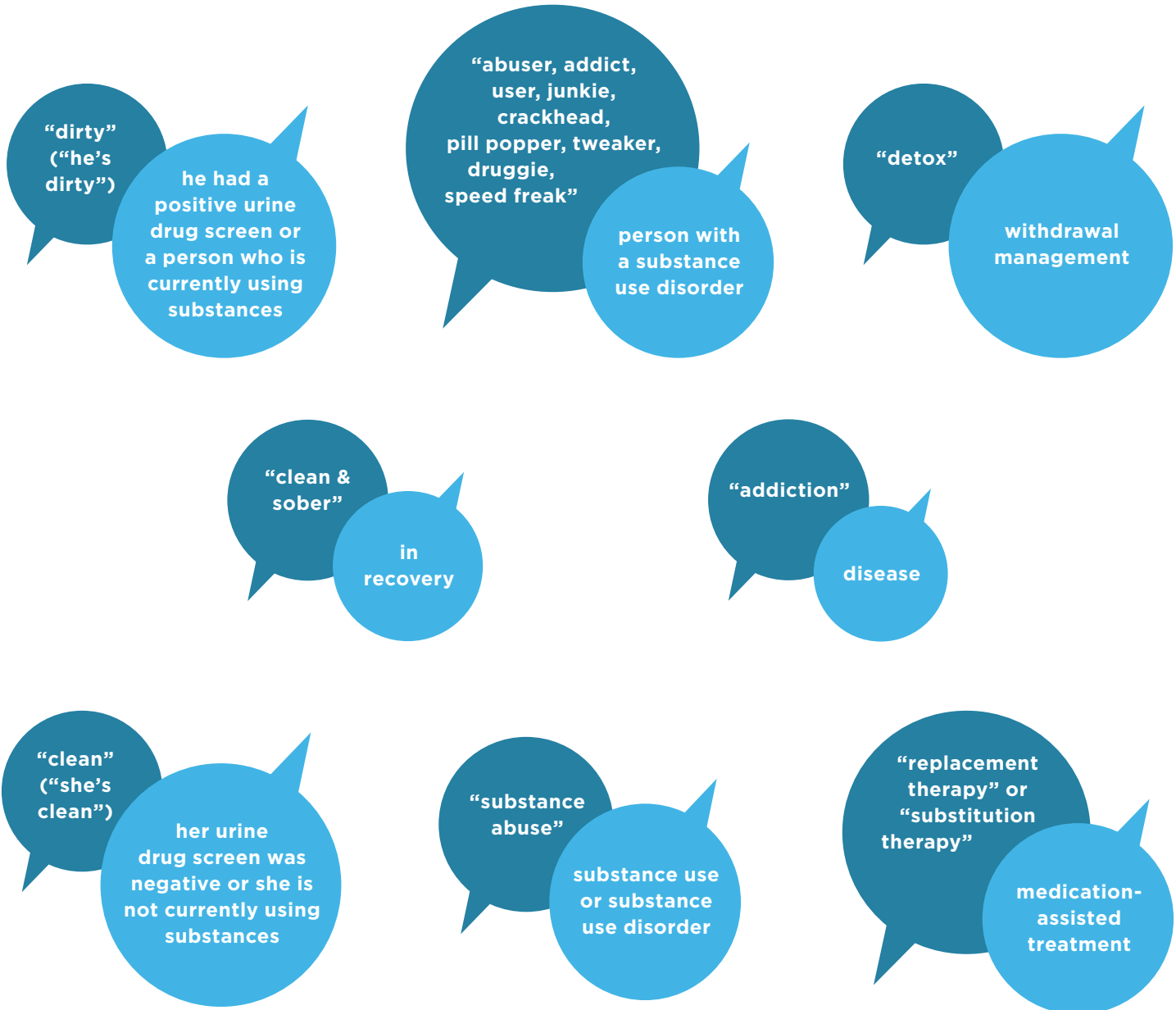
SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS (SUD) LANGUAGE

The Surgeon General recently issued a report, and in it, Surgeon General Vivek Murthy states that only a fraction of people with substance use disorders (SUD) get the treatment they need, and that more evidenced-based treatment, such as medication-assisted treatment (MAT), should be available. There are other problems as well, such as the spread of stigma through language that shames or condescends. Dr. Murthy states that we should “promote non-shaming language...for instance avoiding terms like ‘abuser’ or ‘addict’ when describing people with substance use disorders.” Beacon supports Dr. Murthy’s call to action by encouraging a non-shaming recovery-focused environment for all of the members we serve.

Below, see examples of...

Old
Shaming
Language

New Less
Stigmatizing
Language



[Click here](#) to view Surgeon General’s report.