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Glossary

Action links	Links that reflect activity and influence; "leads to," "next," and "influence" are action links.
Analogy link (A)	A link or relationship that expresses similarities between distant ideas (e.g., a hangover is ***analogous*** to being stuck in a clothes dryer). This link is used to enrich a client's understanding of a particular issue.
Central node	The node that best reflects the content or topic of the map (e.g., "relapse," "anger," "relationships"). This node is often the first node that is drawn (i.e., the starting node).
Characteristic link (C)	A link that indicates traits, attributes, or qualities of something (e.g., one characteristic of heroin is that it is physically addictive).
Comment link (Co)	Usually an observation or remark that indicates the counselor's or client's opinion about something.
Description links	A link that indicates an idea or issue. "Characteristic," "type," and "part of" are descriptive links.
Example link (Ex)	A link that connects a concrete example with a more abstract idea (e.g., jumping off of a bridge is ***an example*** of attempted suicide).
Fill-in map	A structured, pre-prepared map that is to be completed by adding detailed information to the nodes.
Group counseling session maps	Maps drawn or presented in group counseling sessions.
Illustration links	Links that indicate an illustration or enrichment of an idea. "Analogy," "comment," and "example" are illustration links.
Individual counseling session maps	Maps drawn during or after an individual counseling session.
Influences link (I)	An action link indicating one thing may influence or impact another (e.g., family stability ***influences*** relapse).
Leads to link (L)	An action link indicating that one thing causes or produces another (e.g., cocaine ***leads to*** hyperactivity).

Link-to-link connection   This occurs when a link is connected directly to the label of another link. This type of connection shows how a relationship is modified by other things (e.g., the extent to which alcohol **leads to** a hangover is ***influenced*** by amount of food in the person's stomach).

Link types   The labeled lines that connect the nodes in a map (there are 9 basic link types (See Figure 4, p. 10) and many others that can be created for special situations).

Links   These are lines that express relationships between ideas by connecting nodes in a node-link map.

Maps   Node-link displays that show the relationship among ideas, actions, and emotions (somewhat similar to flow charts and organizational diagrams).

Mapping   The process of producing a node-link map.

Next link (N)   An action link that specifies a sequence of events or ideas (e.g., after going to counseling, ***next*** get your methadone dose).

Node   A graphic box (circular, rectangular, square) that contains ideas, emotions, or actions. Nodes are connected to one another by "links" to create a map.

Node-link mapping   (See "Mapping" above.)

Overhead transparency   The clear plastic sheet that is used on an overhead projector to magnify a map for viewing by a group.

Part link (P)   A description link that indicates parts or components (e.g., counseling is a ***part*** of drug abuse treatment).

Presentation Map   A pre-prepared map used by a counselor to provide information (e.g., presentation of AIDS information to groups).

Problem definition   Describing the important or critical aspects of a negative event or issue.

Process Map   A map that is developed in the process of counseling, can be contrasted with a presentation map (see above).

"Reading" a map   This involves understanding the meaning of a map and being able to express that meaning verbally.

Shared ownership   This occurs when clients and counselors both fully participate in the creation of a map.

Type link (T)   A description link that indicates categories of ideas, actions, or emotions (e.g., one ***type of*** negative emotion is sadness).

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