



WHAT IS FASD?

- Is a birth defect that occurs when a person is prenatally exposed to alcohol

PRENATAL ALCOHOL EXPOSURE (PAE)

- Causes a range of adverse physical, neurocognitive, and behavioral effects

ABSTRACT

We are an interprofessional team that worked together to educate and bring awareness to FASD. There are a lot of misconceptions regarding this disorder. After learning that there are no medical trainings for physicians regarding diagnosing which results in a lack of therapy, we were eager to bring awareness to this serious matter.

COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS

- Facial abnormalities are a common sign of an FASD diagnosis
- All healthcare professionals receive proper education and training about FASD

PREVALENCE AND DIAGNOSIS

PREVALENCE

- 1 out of every 20 children in the U.S.
- 10 times greater diagnosis for children in foster care
- However, many foster children have missed diagnoses of FASD

DIAGNOSIS

- Criteria for diagnosis includes PAE and CNS or brain abnormalities
- Although facial abnormalities such as small eyes and thin lips are often associated with FASD, they only occur in 10% of people with FASD

THE HAZARDS OF NOT KNOWING

IMPORTANCE OF TREATMENT

- Conduct a FASD diagnostic evaluation as early as possible (birth to age 3) to document alcohol exposure in the medical record and begin early intervention
- Re-evaluate at age 8 to update diagnosis
- Predictors of positive outcomes include
 - Early Diagnosis and Intervention & Stable, Nurturing Home Environment

WHAT HAPPENS TO FAMILIES IF THEY DO NOT GET A DIAGNOSIS?

- 29.2% of male youth with FASD reported a serious suicide attempt
- Almost 50% experience problems related to alcohol and drugs
- Legal trouble at a younger age which may result in incarceration and/or juvenile detention

DAILY OCCUPATIONS IMPACTED

- The 8 areas of occupations are impacted due to: **Adaptive Function, Severe Executive Functioning, Attention, and Memory Deficits, Sensory Overload, Average/Low IQ, Learning Disabilities, Sleep Disorder**

FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- Our goal is to spread awareness about FASD diagnosis across an interdisciplinary field of healthcare providers. Leading to a decrease in misdiagnoses and an increase in treatment and therapies.

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