What are FAS and FASD?

Fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) is a permanent birth defect syndrome caused by maternal consumption of alcohol during pregnancy. It is characterized by growth deficiency, central nervous system (CNS) damage/dysfunction, and a unique cluster of minor facial anomalies. It is the leading known cause of intellectual disabilities in the western world and is entirely preventable. The prevalence of FAS is estimated to be 1–3 per 1000 live births in the U.S. general population, but has been documented to be as high as 1 per 100 in high-risk populations like foster care. Not all individuals with prenatal alcohol exposure present with CNS abnormalities, and not all who present with CNS abnormalities have FAS. Recently, the term Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) was coined to depict the full spectrum of outcomes observed among individuals with prenatal alcohol exposure.

What is the UW FAS DPN Clinic?

The University of Washington FAS Diagnostic & Prevention Network (FAS DPN) is a FASD research, training, and diagnostic clinic located at the Center for Human Development and Disability, University of Washington in Seattle. The UW FAS DPN clinic provides diagnostic and referral services to individuals with prenatal alcohol exposure, referral to prevention intervention for women at high risk for producing children damaged by prenatal alcohol exposure, screening services to high risk populations, and FASD training to community professionals. The FASD clinic is staffed by an interdisciplinary team including a pediatrician, 2 psychologists, a speech-language pathologist, an occupational therapist, a social worker, and a family advocate.

1-Day Training Session

This 1-day session includes an overview of current diagnostic and treatment strategies for FASD. The day begins with a 30-minute lecture by the Director, Susan Astley, Ph.D. followed by observation of two comprehensive FASD diagnostic evaluations.

Training Objectives

Participants will learn:
- What FASD is and how it is diagnosed.
- Who benefits from a FASD diagnostic evaluation.
- What services the UW FAS DPN clinic provides and how to utilize them.
- What their role is in the referral, diagnostic, and service provision process.

Who may attend the Training?

Professionals providing care to individuals with FASD and their families. Professions include, but are not limited to: public health nurses, psychologists, physicians, speech-language pathologists, chemical dependency counselors, occupational therapists, K-12 educators, mental health professionals, social workers, juvenile corrections/rehabilitation professionals, and students in training for each of these professions.

How to register for the Training

For details on how to register, please go to fasdpn.org/htmls/1-day-train.htm

Training Dates

Trainings are held on Fridays: 8 am to 5 pm.

Training Location

The FAS DPN Clinic is located at the University of Washington, Center on Human Development and Disability, in Seattle Washington.

Cost

The training is free.

To learn more about the Training

Please go to our training website: fasdpn.org/htmls/1-day-train.htm
Or contact us at (206) 598-9666.