

Recognizing

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders



**Does your child or teen have
behavioral concerns?**

**Are common parenting methods,
medications and treatments not working?**

FASD may be the reason.

FASD may affect neurocognitive, adaptive, and behavioral functioning. It is an underdiagnosed disorder with a range of symptoms that may present like ADHD, ID, LD, CD, ODD and/or other common behavioral disorders. However, the usual strategies to manage those disorders are not effective with FASD.

**The CDC reports
as many as**

**1 in 20
children**

**In the US may
have FASD.**

ADHD = Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder,
ID = Intellectual Disabilities, **LD** = Learning Disabilities
CD = Conduct Disorders, **ODD** = Oppositional Defiant Disorder

FASD indicators include:

General

- Suspected or documented prenatal alcohol exposure

Executive Functioning Difficulties

- Problem solving skills
- Planning and organization
- Learning from mistakes
- Shifting
- Self regulation difficulties
- Temper tantrums, anger, rigidity
- Hyperactivity
- Impulsivity
- Emotional reactivity

Memory and Learning Difficulties

- Working memory issues
- Difficulty learning and remembering new information

Physical

- Impaired growth/failure to thrive
 - Height and/or weight less than the 10th percentile
 - Head circumference less than the 10th percentile
- Facial abnormalities (less than 3% have the following)
 - Thin upper lip
 - Flattened philtrum
 - Small eyes

Adaptive Functioning Deficits

- Difficulties with comprehension and abstraction
- Difficulties understanding social cues/ body language
- Excessive friendliness with strangers/ social immaturity
- Struggles with daily living skills (telling time, managing money)
- Safety issues/need for close supervision and monitoring



Resources

mha.ohio.gov/fasd
odh.ohio.gov/fasd

