What are Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders?

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASDs) cover a range of disorders that affect children who were exposed to alcohol during their mother's pregnancy. Children with FASDs may learn slower than their peers, have trouble controlling their actions or be diagnosed with other behavior disorders like attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

Early diagnosis is critical for children 3 years old and younger. School-aged children may also need special education services to address learning and behavior issues.

What are the signs of FASDs?

Children with FASDs do not always have the same symptoms. It can vary from child to child. They may:

- Have poor sleeping habits
- Have difficulty with reading, writing or math
- Be unable to follow instructions or grasp abstract concepts
- Act defiant or find it hard to control their emotions
- Have other neurobehavioral disorders such as ADHD
- Act like a younger child

Children with FASDs need nurturing families and additional resources to help them be successful.

Atrium Health
Levine Children's

Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrics of the Carolinas
2608 E. Seventh St. | Charlotte, NC 28204
Phone: 704-403-2626 | Fax: 704-403-2699

AtriumHealth.org

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Clinic of the Carolinas

At Atrium Health, we offer expert care for children with FASDs.

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An estimated 1 in 20 children have FASDs.

The FASD Clinic of the Carolinas offers expert care and services to help children with FASDs. From diagnosis to follow-up visits, we aim to address the child's learning, behavioral, emotional and physical needs. Our services include:

- Evaluating and diagnosing FASDs
- Providing treatment options, including rehabilitation and medicine as needed
- Connecting patients and families with support services

Yasmin Senturias, MD, provides FASD evaluation and diagnosis for all patients.

Dr. Senturias, a national expert on FASD, has created FASD educational information for the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Centers for Disease Control. She was one of the authors of the AAP FASD Toolkit, a valuable informational resource for families and medical professionals.

Pediatric Therapy Services

If your child needs therapy services, Atrium Health's Carolinas Rehabilitation-Pineville and Carolinas Rehabilitation-Wendover offers speech-language therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy. These clinics can give children with FASDs the tools to:

- Control their emotions or actions using programs that address self-regulation
- Develop better language skills as it relates to comprehension for daily life and as it applies to school work
- Deal with sensory issues such as excessively seeking or avoiding movement, touch or sound
- Learn social skills to interact with others
- Be able to take care of their daily needs, such as dressing, feeding and sleeping

How do I make an appointment?

Ask your child's doctor to refer you or call us at 704-403-2626 to inquire about the clinic.

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Pediatric Therapy Services
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