




FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS (FASDs)

NEWAYGO COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH

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- A black arrow points to the right from the top left corner. Below it, several thin, curved lines in shades of blue and grey sweep across the left side of the slide.
- The material provided in this presentation is for informational purposes only.
 - The content of the presentation is not intended to provide medical advice or diagnoses.



WHAT IS IT?

- CDC definition – “A group of conditions that occur in a person who was exposed to alcohol before birth.”
- Leading known cause of PREVENTABLE intellectual disabilities.

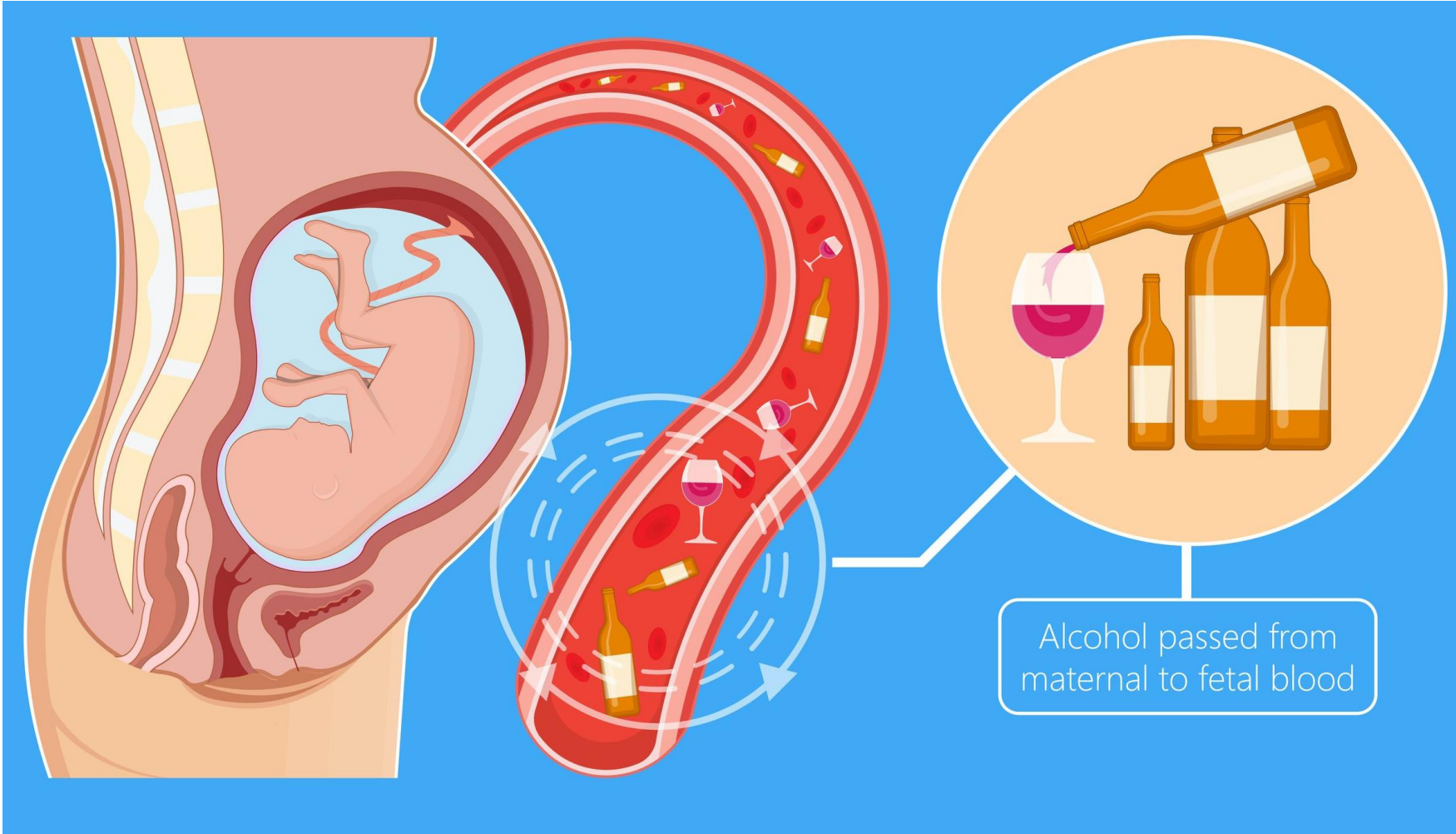




— SEPTEMBER IS —
FASD
AWARENESS
MONTH

“Of all the substances of abuse, including heroin, cocaine, and marijuana, alcohol produces by far the most serious neurobehavioral effects in the fetus.”

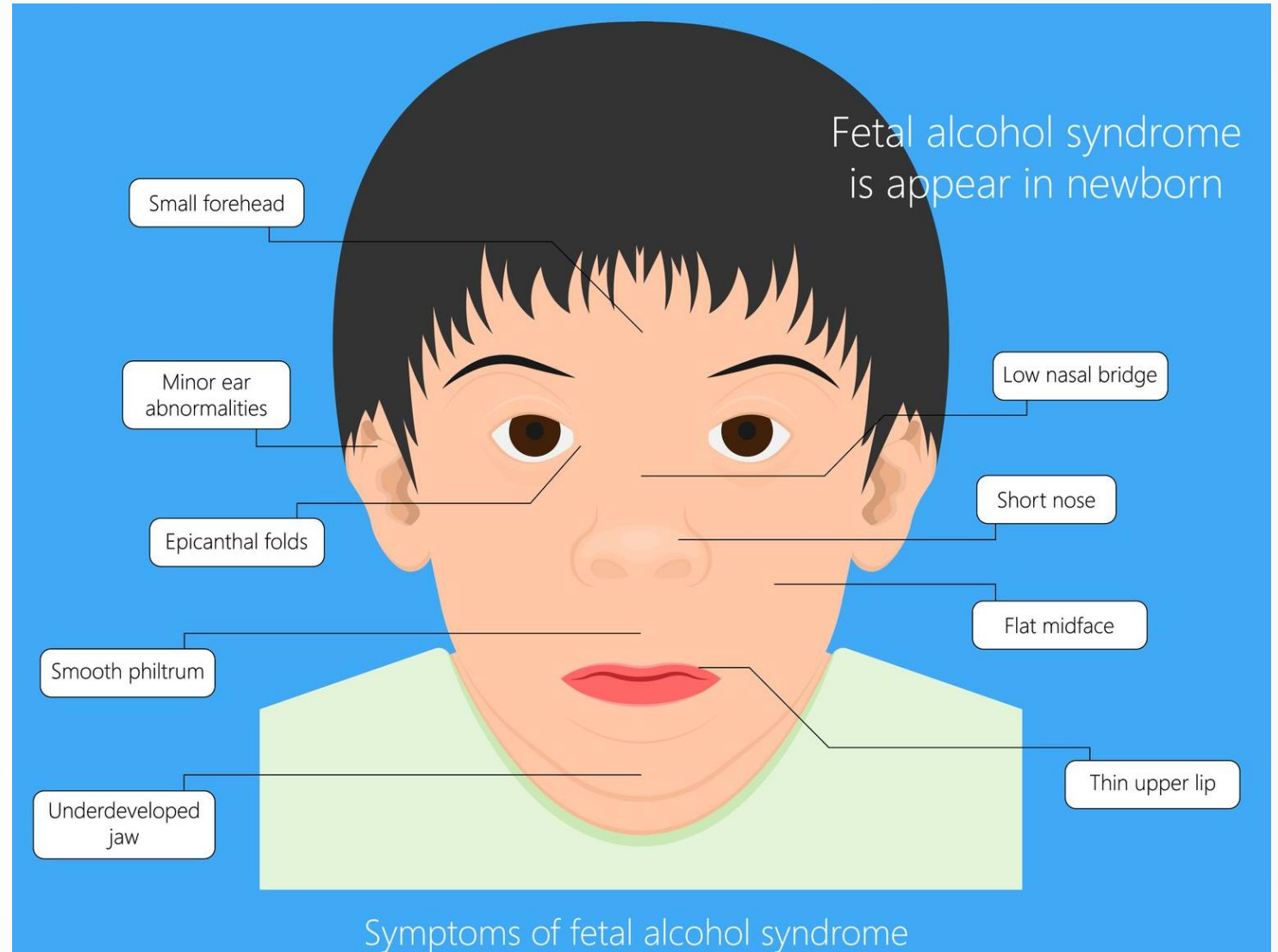
Institute of Medicine Report to Congress
(1996)



Alcohol passed from maternal to fetal blood

Features

- Small eyelid openings
- Short, upturned nose
- Long upper lip (from nose to mouth) with a thin red border and lacking a central groove
- Reduced size of the head



FASD Diagnoses

- ▶ There are several disorders within the spectrum and diagnoses is linked to the symptoms.
- ▶ Can have both physical and behavioral problems.



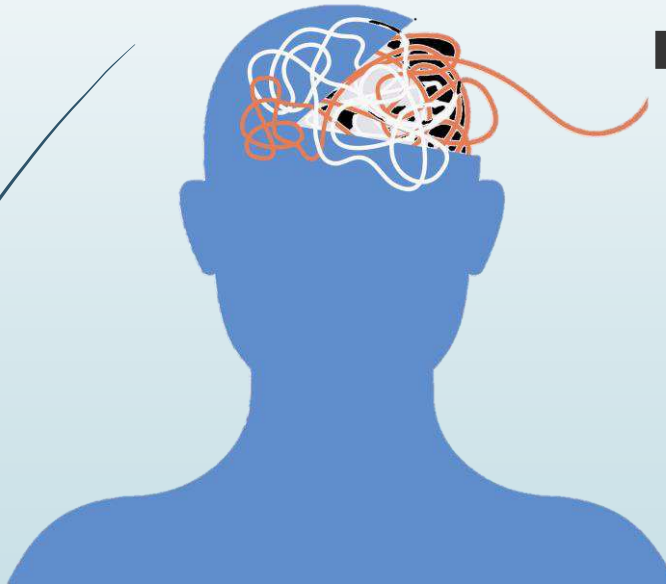


Alcohol-Related Birth Defects (ARBD)

- Potential physical problems with:
 - Heart
 - Kidneys
 - Bone
 - Hearing
 - Vision

***Can affect
several
systems in
the body.***

Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder (ARND)



- ▶ Intellectual Disabilities
- ▶ Learning Disabilities
- ▶ Behavioral Issues
- ▶ Poor Judgement
- ▶ Poor Impulse Control
- ▶ Poor Recall

Neurobehavioral Disorder Associated with Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (ND-PAE)

- Three main areas:
 - Thinking and Memory
 - Behavioral (Mood/ADHD)
 - Basic Living Skills

CDC explains that the mother would have to consume more than 13 alcoholic drinks in one month, or more than 2 drinks in one sitting, for the child to have this diagnosis.



Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)

- Central Nervous System problems
 - Classic Facial Features
 - Low Birth Weight and Length
 - Vision and Hearing Problems
 - Communication Issues
 - Behavioral Issues

Most involved of the FASDs



THERE
IS NO
CURE



TREATMENT

- Early intervention to improve development
- Early Diagnoses
- Decrease stress in home environment
- Special Education
- Social Services
- Training and Education for Parents
- Medications for Medical Issues



RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

Information on the FAS:

- ✓ [Mayoclinic.org](https://www.mayoclinic.org)
- ✓ [Kidshealth.org](https://kidshealth.org)
- ✓ [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Support for families:

- ✓ National Organization of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
([Nofas.org](https://www.nofas.org))
- ✓ Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders—Center of Excellence
([Fascenter.samhsa.gov](https://fascenter.samhsa.gov))
- ✓ Families Moving Forward Program
(depts.washington.edu/fmffasd/)
- ✓ [FAFASD.org](https://www.fafasd.org)
- ✓ Great Lakes FASD Regional Training Center
(fasdeducation.org)