Special Diagnostic Program

The purpose of this program is to meet the diagnostic and treatment planning needs of patients with known or suspected prenatal exposures to alcohol or other neurotoxic substances.

Women & Children’s Hospital of Buffalo
219 Bryant Street
Buffalo, NY 14222
Phone:  (716) 878-7530
Fax:  (716) 878-7405
Internet:  www.wchob.org

Language assistance services are available free of charge for anyone who has a need for an interpreter.
Tenemos servicios de ayuda en Español, para cualquiera que necesita un intérprete.
Special Diagnostic Program

Prenatal (before birth) exposures to neurotoxic substances increase the risks of birth and developmental disabilities.

For example, prenatal exposures to alcohol increase the possibility of fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS), a condition that is characterized by poor growth developmental and learning disabilities, and differences in facial development. These physical and developmental differences are irreversible, but early diagnosis may reduce the risks of problems associated with FAS, including difficulties in school, trouble with the law, and potential substance abuse.

The Special Diagnostic Program seeks to meet the diagnostic and treatment needs of patients with known or suspected prenatal exposures to neurotoxic substances, such as alcohol.

Dr. Luther Robinson, Director of the Special Diagnostic Program, assesses individuals who have been prenatally exposed to alcohol or other harmful agents, and makes recommendations and referrals where indicated. The program works with families to help them to better understand their child’s diagnosis, and help them obtain needed community and/or school services for their child.

To schedule an appointment:
Phone: (716) 878-7530
Fax: (716) 878-7405
E-mail: lrobinson@upa.chob.edu

Screening Benefits

Patients have access to focused services, advocacy, training, and other programs including:

- Social skills training programs that can improve peer friendships
- Specialized education that can improve behavioral and mathematical functioning
- Interactive therapy that can reduce parent-child stress
- Consultation and Advocacy

Community Education and Support Groups for Parents and Caregivers

In the Buffalo area, contact:
Helen Weinstein, CPP
Fetal Alcohol Program Coordinator, Erie County Council for the Prevention of Alcohol & Substance Abuse
helenw@eccpasa.org
www.eccpasa.org
(716) 831-2298

In the Rochester area, contact:
Jennifer Faringer, MS.ED., CPP
Director, DePaul’s National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence – Rochester Area
JFaringer@depaul.org
www.ncadd-ra.org
(585) 719-3480

Additional Resources

The New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS):
http://www.oasas.state.ny.us/fasd/index.cfm

The National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS):
www.nofas.org

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):
www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/index.html

The United States Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration:
www.fasdcenter.samhsa.gov

The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA):
www.niaaa.nih.gov