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**Amended Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA)**

States receiving CAPTA funding are required to assure the federal government that they have a law or statewide program in effect and under operation that:

*Addresses the needs of infants born and identified as being affected by illegal substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure, or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) with*

- A requirement that health care providers involved in the delivery or care of such infants notify the child protective services system of the occurrence of such condition of such infants
- The development of a plan of safe care for the infant...to ensure the safety and well-being of such infant following release from the care of healthcare providers, including through –
  - Addressing the health and substance use disorder treatment needs of the infant and affected family or caregiver; and
  - Development and implementation by the State of monitoring systems regarding the implementation of such plans to determine whether and in what manner local entities are providing, in accordance with State requirements, referrals to and delivery of appropriate services for the infant and affected family or caregiver

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**North Carolina Plan of Safe Care Interagency Collaborative (POSCIC)**

To create a state-specific policy agenda and action plan to address and implement the provisions of CAPTA amended by CARA

- Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services
- Division of Public Health
- Division of Social Services
- Division of Medical Assistance
- North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services
- Community Care of North Carolina
- North Carolina Hospital Association
- North Carolina Obstetrics and Gynecological Society
- North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs

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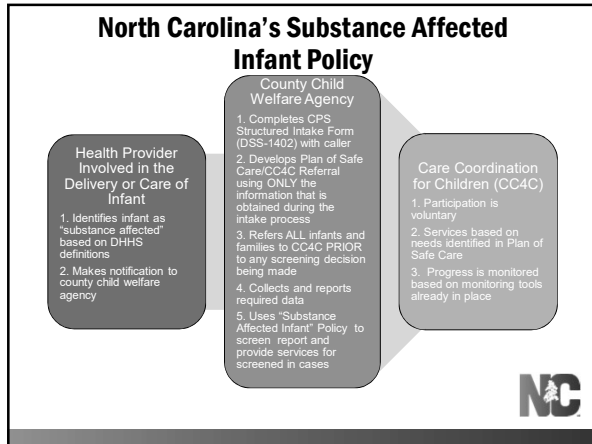
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### Identifying a Substance Affected Infant

**Affected by Substance Abuse:**

- Infants who have a positive urine, meconium or cord segment drug screen with confirmatory testing in the context of other clinical concerns as identified by current evaluation and management standards.

OR

- Medical evaluation, including history and physical of mother, or behavioral health assessment of mother, indicative of an active substance use disorder, during the pregnancy or at time of birth.

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### Identifying a Substance Affected Infant

**Affected by Withdrawal Symptoms:**

- The infant manifests clinically relevant drug or alcohol withdrawal.

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**Identifying a Substance Affected Infant**

**Affected by FASD:**

- Infants diagnosed with one of the following:
  - Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS)
  - Partial FAS (PFAS)
  - Neurobehavioral Disorder associated with Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (NDPAE)
  - Alcohol-Related Birth Defects (ARBD)
  - Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder (ARND)\* OR
- Infants with known prenatal alcohol exposure when there are clinical concerns for the infant according to current evaluation and management standards.

\* Hoyne, HE, Kulberg, WD, Elliot, AJ, et al. Updated Clinical Guidelines for Diagnosing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Pediatrics, Volume 138, number 2, August 2016

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**Identifying a Substance Affected Infant**

**Affected by Withdrawal Symptoms:**

- The infant manifests clinically relevant drug or alcohol withdrawal.

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**Notifying Child Welfare**

Notification requirement does **NOT**:

- Mean that prenatal substance use = child maltreatment
- Establish a definition under Federal law of what constitutes child abuse or neglect
- Change NC General Statutes

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**Structured Intake and the Plan of Safe Care**

DSS has revised intake questions to include a "Substance Affected Infant" section.

'Based on what you know about the infant and family, would they benefit from any of the following services/resources?'

- Evidenced-based parenting programs
- Mental health provider
- Home visiting programs
- Housing resources
- Assistance with transportation
- Identification of appropriate childcare resources

County  
Child  
Welfare  
Agency

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**Connecting Families to Appropriate Services**

CC4C is an at-risk population management program for children birth to 5 years of age

**Program Goals**

- Improving health outcomes
- Strengthening the relationship between the parents and the infant
- Promoting quality care
- Strengthening the relationship with the medical home
- Minimizing the lifelong impacts of the child's risk

Care  
Coordination  
for Children  
(CC4C)

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**Supporting the Substance Affected Infant and Family**

- Goal setting with the family
- Linkage to community resources
- Parent education regarding needs of the infant
- Assistance and support to strengthen infant, mother dyad
- Education regarding red flags
- Strengthen the relationship to the medical home
- Emphasis on well and preventative care

Care  
Coordination  
for Children  
(CC4C)

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**Screening using the “Substance Affected Infant” Policy**

County Child Welfare Agency

- While the *notification* is required, the infant may not be appropriate for child welfare services if there is an absence of immediate safety concerns
- North Carolina child welfare policy continues to focus on the *effect* substance use has had on the infant and not act of prenatal substance use
- Once a county child welfare agency is notified of the identification of a “substance affected infant,” it will consult the Substance Affected Infant Screening Tool to determine if a CPS Assessment is warranted

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**Plan of Safe Care Questions?**

Email:  
SVC\_NCPOSCIC@dhhs.nc.gov

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**ALCOHOL / DRUG COUNCIL OF NORTH CAROLINA**

ADCNC PROVIDES SERVICES TO THOSE WHO STRUGGLE W/ SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

• STATE WIDE INFORMATION & REFERRAL LINE  
WWW.ALCOHOLDRUGHELP.ORG

 1.800.688.4232

Perinatal Substance Use Project/Judith Johnson-Hostler  
1800-688-4232

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**North Carolina Fetal Alcohol Prevention Program (FASDInNC)**

Training, education, and resources on FASD

[FASDinNC.org](http://FASDinNC.org)

A state-wide program housed at  
Mission Hospital's Fullerton Genetics Center, Asheville  
and  
Regional Training Center of East Carolina University,  
Greenville

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- Key Messages
- *Pregnancy and Opioid Exposure: Guidance for North Carolina*
- Service Locator Map

[www.ncpoep.org](http://www.ncpoep.org)




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**Starleen Scott Robbins, LCSW**  
**Women's Services Coordinator**

**Division of MH/DD/SAS**  
**Addictions & Management**  
**Operations Section**

**919-715-2415**

[Starleen.Scott-Robbins@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Starleen.Scott-Robbins@dhhs.nc.gov)

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