

North Carolina Requirement to Notify Child Protective Services (CPS) of

Substance Affected Infant

The Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act requires states to have policies and procedures requiring health care providers to notify the child protective services system if they are involved in the delivery of an infant born and identified as being **affected by substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure**, or a **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder**. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NC DHHS), along with its health care and substance use disorder treatment partners, have developed the following definitions of such infants:

Affected by Substance Abuse:

- 1) The infant has 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

- 2) The infant's mother has had a medical evaluation, including history and physical, or behavioral health assessment indicative of an active substance use disorder, during the pregnancy or at time of birth.

Affected by Withdrawal Symptoms:

The infant manifests clinically relevant drug or alcohol withdrawal.

Affected by FASD:

- 1) The infant is 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

- 2) The infant has known prenatal alcohol exposure when there are clinical concerns for the infant per current evaluation and management standards.

Please contact _____ County Child Protective Services upon the identification of an infant meeting these definitions and who is a resident of this county. Please be prepared to follow regular CPS Intake procedures. You may reach _____ County CPS intake at: