

[https://www.123rf.com/photo\\_117108319\\_do-not-drink-alcohol-during-pregnancy-no-alcohol-for-pregnant-woman-prohibition-sign-vector-illustration.html](https://www.123rf.com/photo_117108319_do-not-drink-alcohol-during-pregnancy-no-alcohol-for-pregnant-woman-prohibition-sign-vector-illustration.html)



# Fetal Alcohol Syndrome

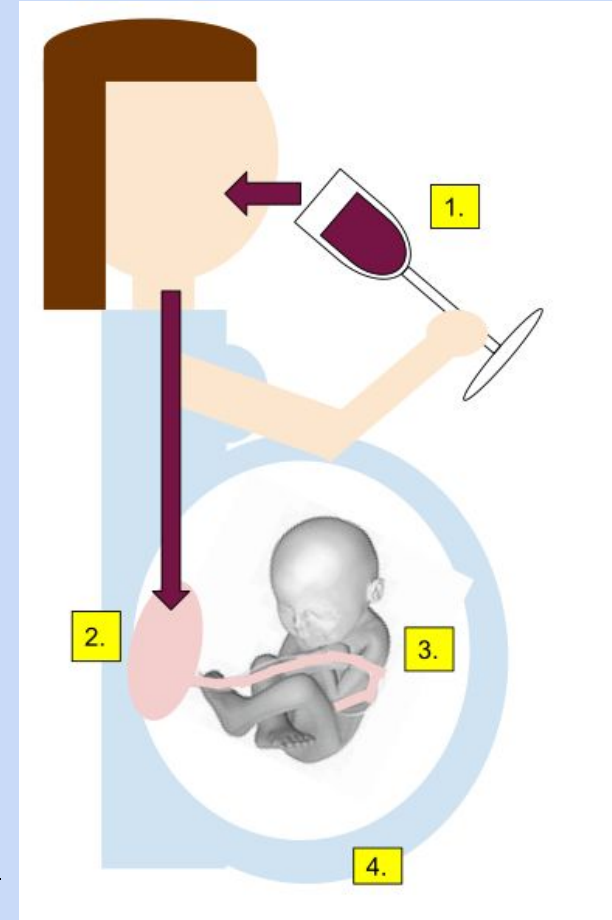
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**DEN 1114 D020**

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# Introduction - What is Fetal Alcohol Syndrome?

- Alcohol exposure during fetal development is the cause of the condition known as **fetal alcohol syndrome or (FAS)**.
- Alcohol consumption during pregnancy can have an impact on the central nervous system, which in return has an impact on brain development. Many brain processes, including speech and language, comprehension, emotions, mobility skills, facial development/teeths are impacted.
- Some studies say that alcohol use is most harmful during the first three months of pregnancy. But, it should be **AVOIDED** completely due to development throughout the 9 months.
- 1 in every 750 infants is born with fetal alcohol syndrome. Can be male or female.

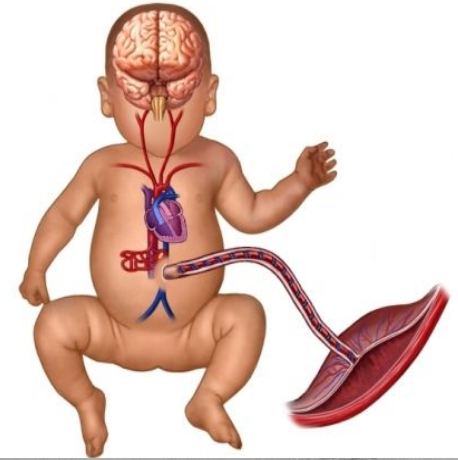


[Link to the picture](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fetal_Alcohol_Syndrome.svg) :[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fetal\\_Alcohol\\_Syndrome.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fetal_Alcohol_Syndrome.svg)

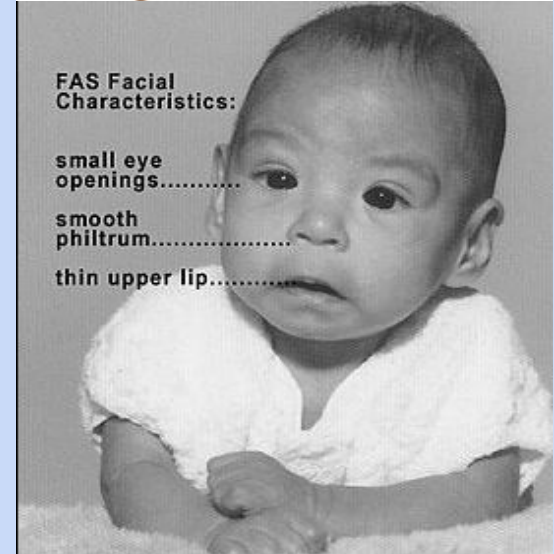
# Body - The Process of impact and treatment

- As a developing fetus, alcohol harms the developing embryo and leads to birth abnormalities. Alcohol interferes with cell formation when it enters the fetus' blood stream. This may have a negative impact on brain development completely. When a pregnant woman drinks alcohol, the alcohol enters her bloodstream, travels through the placenta and into the bloodstream of the fetus. All of the alcohol is absorbed by the fetus, who has the same blood alcohol level as the mother when consumed.
- It's part of a group called **Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder** , there is **Alcohol-Related Neurodevelopmental Disorder (ARND)** which causes Learning difficulties and intellectual impairment. There is **Alcohol-Related Birth Defects (ARBD)** is have issues with their hearing, bones, kidneys, or heart. Lastly, **(FAS) Fetal Alcohol Syndrome** which is the most severe and i already mentioned.
- There are no diagnostic medical procedures for FAS, such as blood tests. Diagnosing FAS might be challenging when watching behaviors of FAS because they are comparable to other diseases. The only thing that can be done is individualized speech and language therapy is available.

<https://www.cancerca.gov/content.aspx?chunkid=1188>



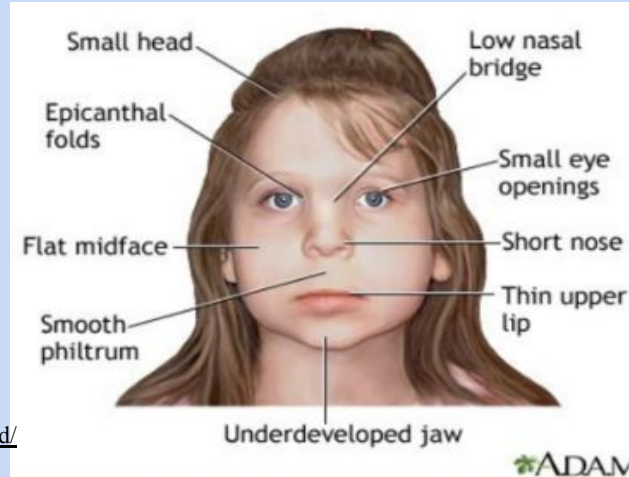
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fetal\\_alcohol\\_spectrum\\_disorder](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fetal_alcohol_spectrum_disorder)



# Physical Characteristics :

These signs can range in severity from mild to severe.

- Maxillary Hypoplasia: An underdevelopment of the upper jaw bone tissue.
- Thin upper lip
- Uprturned nose
- Small head
- Flat nasal bridge and midface
- Small the palpebral fissure that's the space between the open eyelids is called the palpebral fissure.
- Flattened/smooth philtrum



[Link to the picture :](https://healthjade.net/fasd/)  
<https://healthjade.net/fasd/>



[Link to the picture :](https://www.ipedhc.org/article/S0891-5245%2817%2930072-X/fulltext)  
<https://www.ipedhc.org/article/S0891-5245%2817%2930072-X/fulltext>

# What are the dental impacts?

<https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/16/22/4401/htm>

- A. Enamel opacities, in this case concerning the upper central incisors.
- B. Anterior open bite resulting from a sucking habit and mouth breathing.



<https://pocketdentistry.com/19-dental-hygiene-care-for-clients-with-special-care-needs/>



[https://dentistry-ipce.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2019/03/C1c\\_Silva.pdf](https://dentistry-ipce.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2019/03/C1c_Silva.pdf)



# Conclusion : The Role of the Dental Team

- If an FAS patient comes in the office. It is ideal for the environment of the appointment to be calm and stress-free for the patient. Establishing a cooperative connection with your patient requires careful consideration of the amount of attention span the patient with FAS has, be understanding and try your best.
- Keep an eye out for the signs as well. The smooth philtrum, the thin upper lip and vermilion border, and the inadequate development of the midface are distinguishing orofacial features of FAS. Also, on pregnant patients make sure to observe for any signs of the use of alcohol.
- For Dental Procedures : It is advised to add occlusal sealants. It is important to act quickly to address decay in teeth. Making sure the parents or care taker understands the importance of their oral care using fluoride toothpaste, gels or mouthwashes. Also, make it fun try to teach the patient too. A person with a disability should be treated the same as a normal person. Treatment plan should be in place based on any issues observed/tested. If needed they can seek dental specialties such prosthodontics, reconstructive oral surgery, orthodontics, and cosmetic dentistry. **No patient should be discriminated against EVER!**

<https://www.medicalassistantcoursesonline.net/career-companions/dental-hygienist/>



<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41407-020-0432-8>



*The End*

