

A comprehensive report will be provided after the clinic has been completed. The Center also offers technical assistance and support services, and resources or information for individuals wanting to learn more about FASD.

For referral or other information, please contact the Center for Disabilities so we can answer any questions you may have.

## Center for Disabilities

Health Science Center

1400 W. 22nd St., Sioux Falls, SD 57105

Phone: 605-357-1439 | Fax: 605-357-1438

1-800-658-3080 (Voice/TTY)

cd@usd.edu | usd.edu/cd

Twitter: @CD\_SouthDakota

Facebook: The-Center-For-Disabilities-South-Dakota

YouTube: /Center4Disabilities

Pinterest: c4dsouthdakota



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA  
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

This brochure is available in alternative format upon request.

For more information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, visit:  
[www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/facts.html](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/facts.html)



# Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Clinic

at the  
Center for Disabilities



UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTH DAKOTA  
SANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

## *Did you know that 2-5% of school age children in the United States are affected by a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder?*

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) is a group of conditions covering a wide range of effects which can occur when a developing baby is prenatally exposed to alcohol. The prevalence of FASD continues to rise each year, making the disorders a leading cause of preventable birth defects and developmental disabilities in the United States. Early and accurate identification is important to help improve the educational and health outcomes for individuals with FASD.

One in 50 school age children has FASD. It is more prevalent than Down Syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, Cystic Fibrosis, and Spina Bifida combined. Recognizing FASD can be difficult. Early and accurate identification is key to receiving appropriate individualized support. Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS) is just one FASD; others may be more difficult to distinguish, particularly when the exposure to alcohol is unknown. Many of the symptoms that can lead to an assessment for FAS cannot be identified at birth, but become more recognizable later on.

## **What might it look like?**

The effects from prenatal alcohol exposure range from mild to severe and impact each person differently. The disruption in fetal development may lead to behavioral problems, learning disabilities, physical or developmental disabilities, and various other characteristics.

### **One or more possible characteristics may include:**

- Abnormal facial features, such as a smooth ridge between the nose and upper lip
- Small head size
- Shorter-than-average height
- Low body weight
- Poor coordination
- Hyperactive behavior
- Difficulty with attention
- Poor memory
- Difficulty in school (especially with math)
- Learning disabilities
- Speech and language delays
- Intellectual disability or low IQ
- Poor reasoning and judgment skills
- Sleep and sucking problems as a baby
- Vision or hearing problems
- Problems with the heart, kidneys, or bones

## **Want to learn more?**

The Center for Disabilities works in the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders field by offering diagnostic clinics to assist people who may have FASD. Clinics are held monthly in Sioux Falls and Rapid City. The clinics consist of one full day of comprehensive evaluations with information and results provided to families in a team meeting at the end of the day.

### **Clinic components may include:**

- clinical psychology
- audiology
- education
- genetics
- psychiatry
- social work