

Impacting Service Infrastructure to Combat Negative Consequences of Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

Authors: Sue Workman, BS, CCRP, Rebecca Campbell, MA, Melina Danko, MS and Lesley Cottrell, PhD, WVU CED, Morgantown, WV

Background

What is neonatal abstinence syndrome?

Neonatal abstinence syndrome is a withdrawal syndrome that occurs after prenatal exposure to drugs is discontinued suddenly at birth.

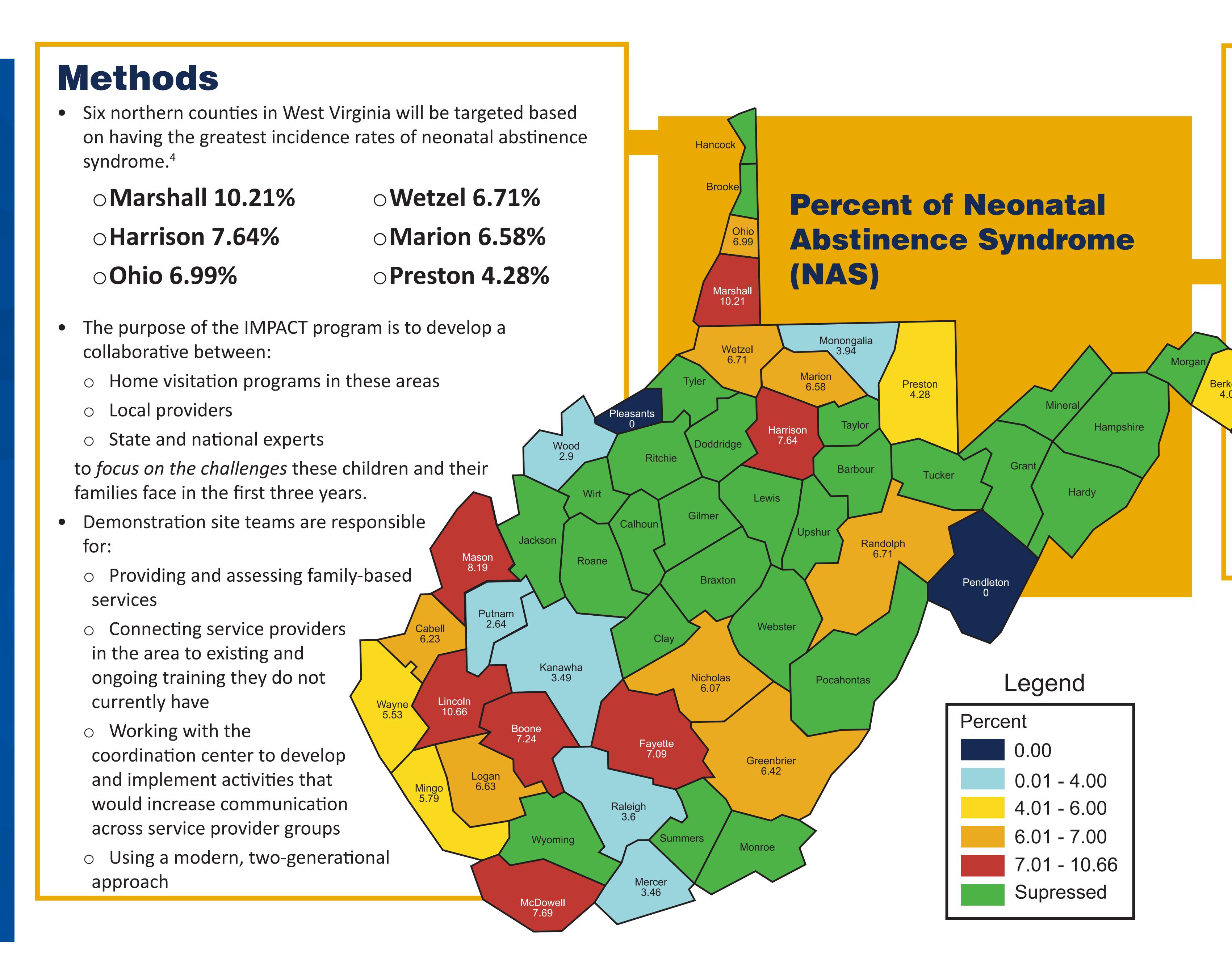
A recent report by the West Virginia
 Department of Health and Human
 Resources (DHHR) revealed an overall incidence rate for NAS in 2017 at 50.6 cases per 1,000 live births.¹

What are children born with neonatal abstinence syndrome more likely to be evaluated for or diagnosed with?²⁻³

- Developmental delays
- Impaired verbal and performance skills
- Learning disabilities
- Visual motor weakness
- Memory Problems
- Impulsivity
- Higher incidence of otitis media leading to hearing loss

Purpose of study

IMPACT WV is a two-generational approach to improve the quality of services to reduce health disparities of children impacted by substance use and decrease disability through screenings and assessment for developmental delays.



Results

- Two demonstration sites have been identified
 - Hospital setting implementing a perinatal transition program
 - Wheeling Hospital Perinatal Transition Program
 - Family service program setting implementing change through home visiting teams
 - Burlington United Methodist Family Services (BUMFS)
- A notice of funding opportunity for a third demonstration site is being developed
- Participant enrollment opened March 2020
- The IMPACT WV online learning portal has been developed for families and service providers that includes modules, blogs, summary sheets, and resources.

www.wvimpact.org

 Partnered with other programs at the WVU Center for Excellence in

Disabilities for Educational, Employment, WIPA and PBS referrals. www.cedwvu.org



Conclusions

We argue that developing a strong infrastructure of services in at risk areas of the state will help combat negative consequences experienced by families facing substance use and subsequent developmental delays related to NAS and other conditions.

Funding

Model (AHRIM) Program is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$600,000 with 0 percentage financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

Resources

- 1. Department of Health and Human Resources. WVDHHR. https://dhhr.wv.gov/News/2018/Pages/
- 2. Key Findings: Children Born with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) May Have Educational

complications/neonatal-abstinence-syndrome-(nas).aspx. Accessed March 4, 2020.

- Disabilities. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. https://www.cdc.gov/pregnancy/features/kf-nas-educational-disabilities.html. Published August 30, 2018. Accessed March 4, 2020.

 3. Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS). March of Dimes. https://www.marchofdimes.org/
- 4. West Virginia DHHR releases NAS birth statistics by county. West Virginia Press Association. https://wvpress.org/breaking-news/west-virginia-dhhr-releases-nas birth-statistics-by-county/. Published April 12, 2018. Accessed April 6, 2020