



COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: Adaptive Processes

The Community of Practice (CoP) was developed through a partnership with IMPACT WV and the WV Home Visiting Program to help participants exchange technical information and share experiences about Non-Traditional Families related to serving clients currently experiencing or who have past experiences with substance use and neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS).

***The information in this IMPACT WV product was taken from CoP presentations by Neal M. Horen, PhD Georgetown University, Mishka Terplan, MD, MPH, FACOG, DFASAM, University of California, Chu, MD, MSc, and Rebecca Schwartz, LCSW, San Francisco General Hospital and Amanda Newhouse LICSW, PCIT Level- I Trainer, IMH-E, WVU Medicine Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry.**

Aim

The purpose of this Cop:

- Understand substance use disorder (SUD) in the family
- Understand the impact of SUD on the developing brain
- Identify the impact of early exposure to stressful situations
- Describe how to build resiliency in a family
- Describe the Substance Use Warmline
- Describe how the family hierarchy impacts relationships in kinship care
- Identify strategies for inclusive family engagement in kinship care



General Info

All pregnant people are motivated to maximize their health and that of their baby-to-be, however, individuals with the disease of addiction need treatment. Postpartum, also known as the 4th trimester, is one year after delivery. Overdose events decrease over pregnancy but increase during postpartum. Optimizing maternal health is the core principle of care and includes the need to address stigma and discrimination.

Women and substance use

- Higher percentage of mental health problems
- Need for evening and weekend appointments
- Lack social supports
- Experience more negative influences from drug using romantic partner
- Are more likely to live in poverty
- Experience child care barriers

Disruption in early attachment for children

- Affects regulation
- Leads to less social competence
- Leads to aggressive behavior
- Leads to decreased ability to learn
- Causes later psychopathology

Attachment is a deep enduring emotional bond that connects one person to another across time and space (Ainsworth, 1973; Bowlby, 1969). Secure attachment matters along with prenatal attachment when the mother and baby as one increases rhythms and reduces needs. Becoming pregnant leads to reorganization moving the pregnant mom's role from daughter to mother and expanding the dynamic with the baby's father.



Neuroscientist
Rebecca Saxe and her
2 month old son.



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General Information (Continued)

Therapeutic Alliance refers to the relationship between a health care professional and a client (or patient). It is how a therapist and a client hope to engage with each other and effect beneficial change in the client.

How providers can help

- Identify what feelings you bring
- Authentically engage
- What does your body language say?
- Build a trusting relationship
- Positive thoughts promote positive interaction
- Reassure confidentiality

Home visiting strategies to support families impacted by NAS include

- Implementing trauma informed care and reflective supervision at the local level
- Knowing state reporting laws
- Supporting coordination of services at the state and local level
- Making data informed decisions to support families
- Encouraging multiple agency involvement

The Team Lily Approach

incorporates:

- Flexible appointments, meeting the needs of individual clients, off-site visits
- Easy access to team members via phone and text
- Pregnancy counseling - abortion, adoption and pregnancy continuation
- Pregnancy and postpartum care
- Mental health services
- Addiction services including buprenorphine/suboxone treatment
- Navigation and case management to assist with access to housing and other resources
- Support around navigating Child Protective Services (CPS) and CPS reunification

<https://obgyn.ucsf.edu/san-francisco-general-hospital/team-lily>



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Resources

HRSA's Home Visiting Program: Supporting Families Impacted by Opioid Use and Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

<https://mchb.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/mchb/MaternalChildHealthInitiatives/HomeVisiting/MIECHV-Opioid-NAS-Resource.pdf>

The guide notes that West Virginia launched the 24- hour Behavioral Health Referral and Outreach Call Center, 1-844-HELP4WV, a centralized point of entry for accessing behavioral health resources.

National Substance Use Warmline

<https://nccc.ucsf.edu/clinical-resources/substance-use-resources/>

The National Clinician Consultation Center (NCCC) offers free and confidential clinician-to-clinician telephone consultation focusing on substance use evaluation and management for primary care clinicians.

Ghost in the Nursery

<https://frcnca.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Ghosts-in-the-nursery-paper-copy.pdf>

A Psychoanalytic Approach to the Problems of Impaired Infant-Mother Relationships by Selma Fraiberg, Edna Adelson and Vivian Shapiro.

Tips

- Remember: Emotions, reactions, judgements, behaviors, and intentions
- The “gold standard” is integration: comprehensive, co-located service delivery
- Use a strengths based approach
- Protective factors build resiliency in families



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