

The Arkansas State FASD Program

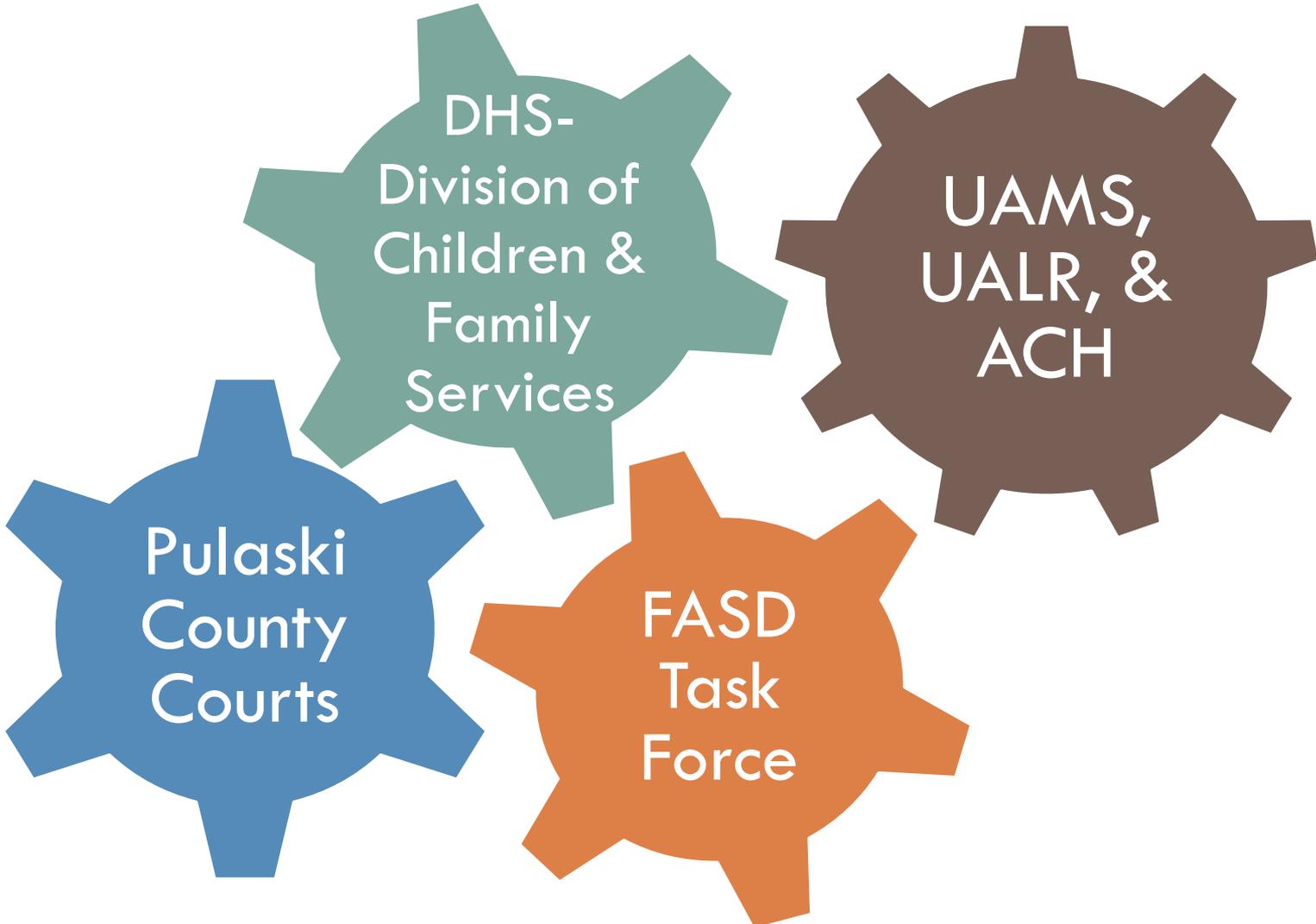


FROM THE PULASKI COUNTY JUVENILE
COURT FASD PROJECT TO
THE ARKANSAS STATE FASD PROGRAM



Care- Commit- Connect





DHS-
Division of
Children &
Family
Services

UAMS,
UALR, &
ACH

Pulaski
County
Courts

FASD
Task
Force

FASD Task Force

It takes a village...

- ❑ Pulaski County Juvenile Courts
- ❑ UALR Partners for Inclusive Communities
- ❑ UAMS Department of Family & Preventative Medicine
- ❑ Division of Children and Family Services
- ❑ Division of Behavioral Health Services
- ❑ Division of Child Care & Early Childhood Education
- ❑ UAMS PACE Team
- ❑ Access to Recovery Program
- ❑ Arkansas Department of Education, Special Education
- ❑ Division of Developmental Disabilities (Part C)
- ❑ Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care
- ❑ Arkansas Zero to Three Court Team
- ❑ March of Dimes
- ❑ Adoptive Parent representative

FAS Awareness Day 9-9-2012

FASD Task Force With Governor Mike Beebe as he presents FAS Awareness Day proclamation to a family.



Warning Sign Bill – HB 2277, now Act 1300 Signed into law. 4-16-2013

The FASD task force looks on as Governor Mike Beebe signs a bill that mandates private clubs that sell alcohol to post warning signs about the dangers of drinking during pregnancy



Referrals to DCFS for Children born with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders:

States that receive Federal CAPTA Funds should have a Plan to respond to the amendment to made during the 2010 legislative session.

- **Child Abuse Prevention Treatment Act (CAPTA) or Arkansas Law: A.C.A. § 12-18-310 (2011)**
- a) All health care providers involved in the delivery or care of infants shall:
 - (1) Contact the Department of Human Services regarding an infant born and affected with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder; and
 - 2) Share all pertinent information, including health information, with the department regarding an infant born and affected with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- (b) The department shall accept referrals, calls, and other communications from health care providers involved in the delivery or care of infants born and affected with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.
- (c) The department shall develop a plan of safe care for infants affected with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

FASD Program Interventions:

- **Family Service Worker assigned to the case with training and experience in FASD.**
- **FASD Parenting classes for biological, foster, and adoptive parents.**
- **Referral and assistance with referral process for FASD diagnostic exam if needed.**
- **Referral to Developmental Disability Services (DDS) if Applicable.**
- **Connection with a family support group set up online through a closed Facebook group for FASD families only.**
- **Referral to drug and alcohol recovery center if applicable.**
- **Referral to the Access to Recovery Program (ATR).**
- **Assistance with IEP conferences and planning educational support services.**
- **Referral to specialized day care if applicable.**

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

(FASD)

- Umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy.
- Not a diagnosis.



What is Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders?

- Set of *mental, cognitive and neurobehavioral birth defects* caused by exposure to alcohol during pregnancy
- **Greatest cause of *intellectual deficit* in the United States**
- Costly in human and economic terms

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders



- ❑ **FAS**
- Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- ❑ **pFAS**
- Partial Fetal Alcohol Syndrome
- ❑ **ARND**
- Alcohol Related Neurodevelopment Disorder
- ❑ **ARBD**
- Alcohol Related Birth Defects

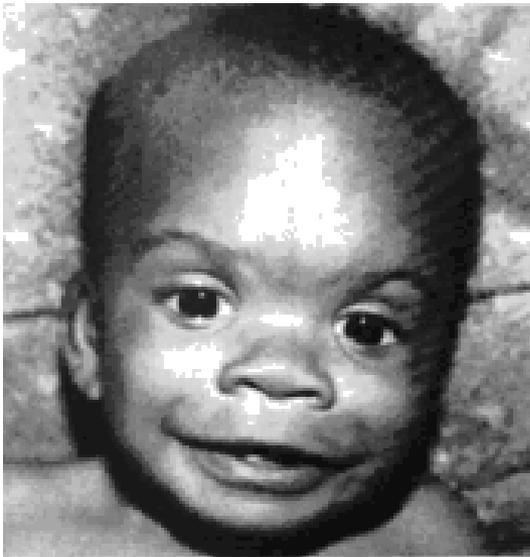
FASD's are....

- ***Permanent - irreversible***
- Often occurs with *other diagnoses*
- **100% preventable**
- *Early intervention helps prevent secondary disabilities*

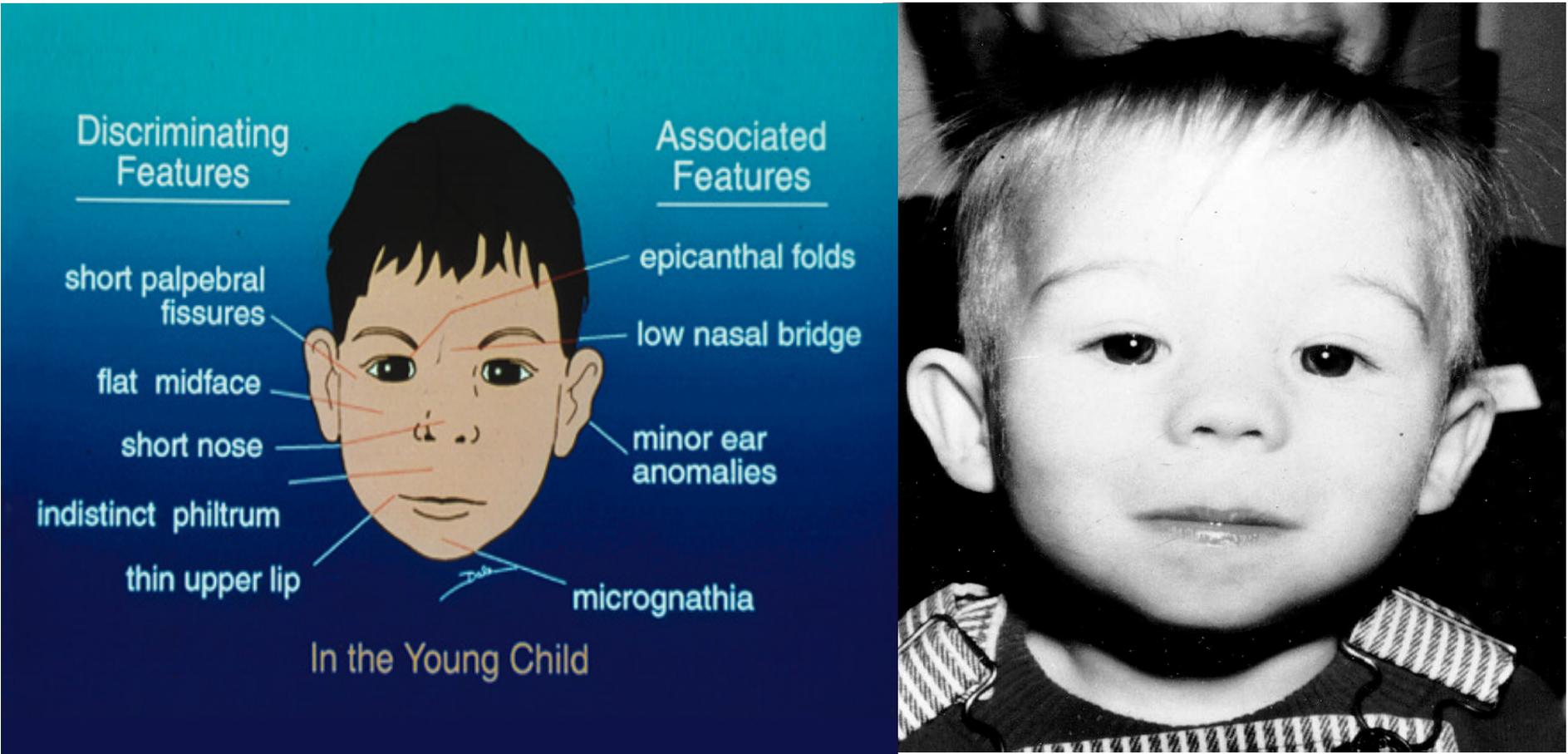
Characteristics of FAS

Alcohol disrupts typical brain growth and can result in:

- ▣ Specific facial abnormalities
- ▣ Growth deficits (small head circumference, low birth weight)
- ▣ Central nervous system or neurobehavioral disorders



Facial Features

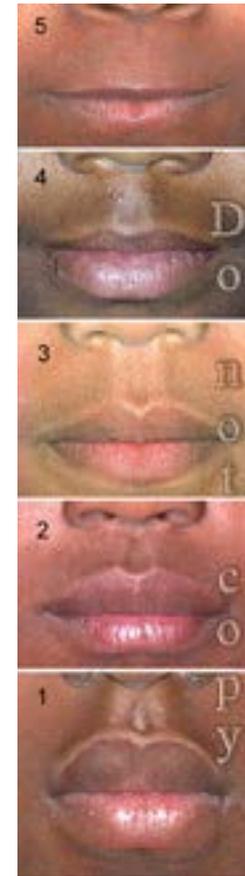


CDC Criteria (2004)

- Facial Abnormalities
 - Smooth philtrum
 - Lip philtrum guide 4 or 5
 - Thin vermilion
 - Lip philtrum guide 4 or 5
 - Palpebral fissures
 - 10th percentile or lower



Lip-Philtrum Guide 1



Lip-Philtrum Guide 2

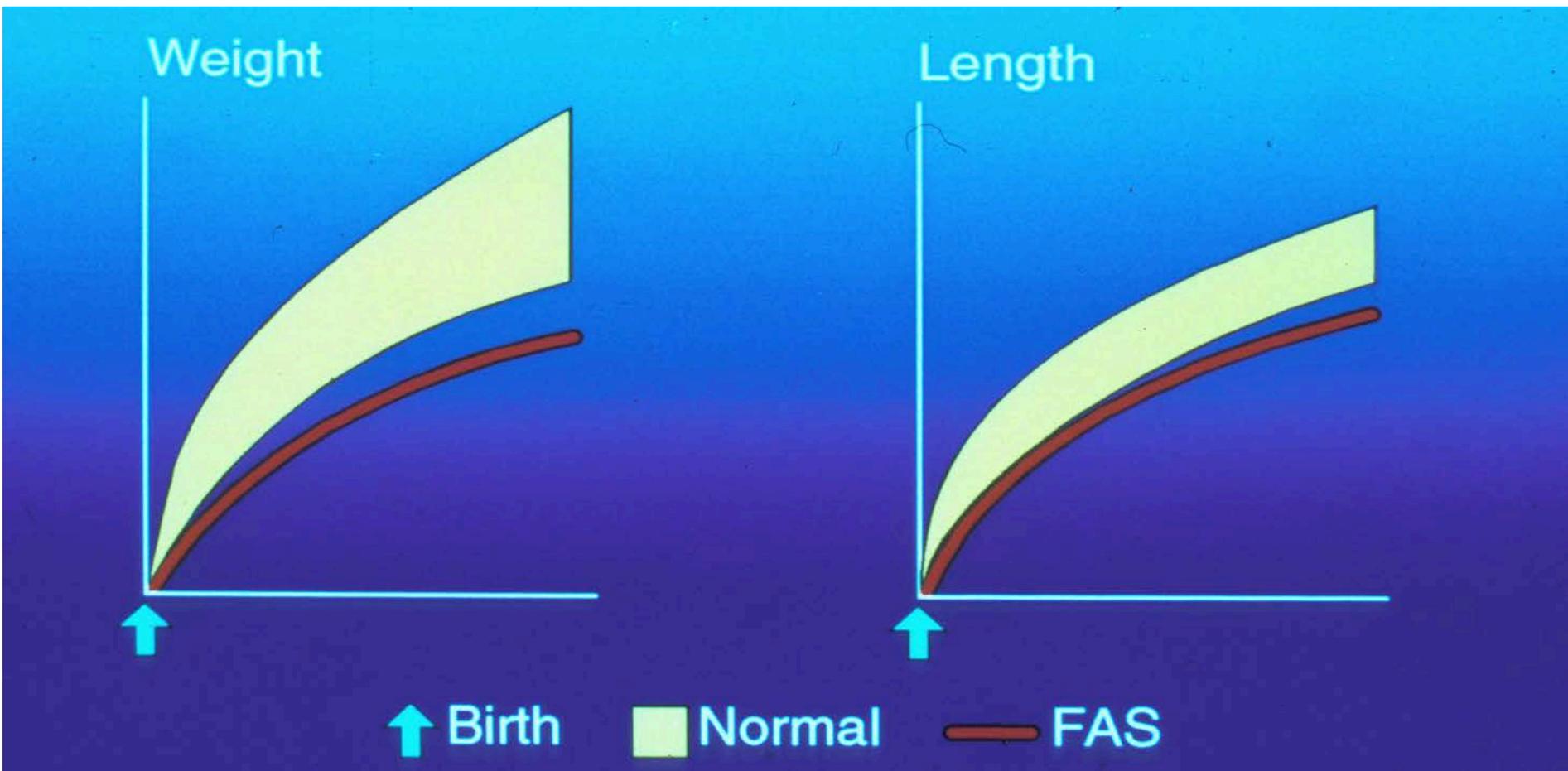
Facial Features in Children of Different Ethnicities



FAS and Native Americans

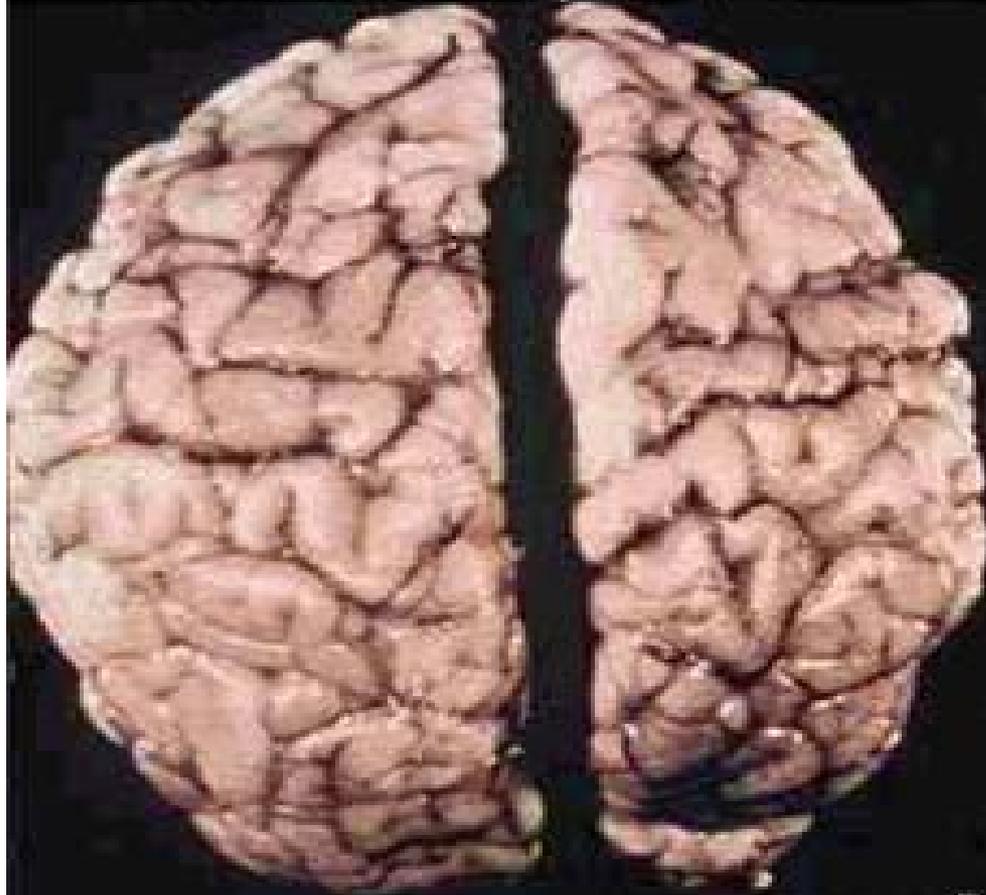


Growth in FAS



FASD & the Brain

Normal brain of baby 6 wks old



Brain of baby same age with FAS

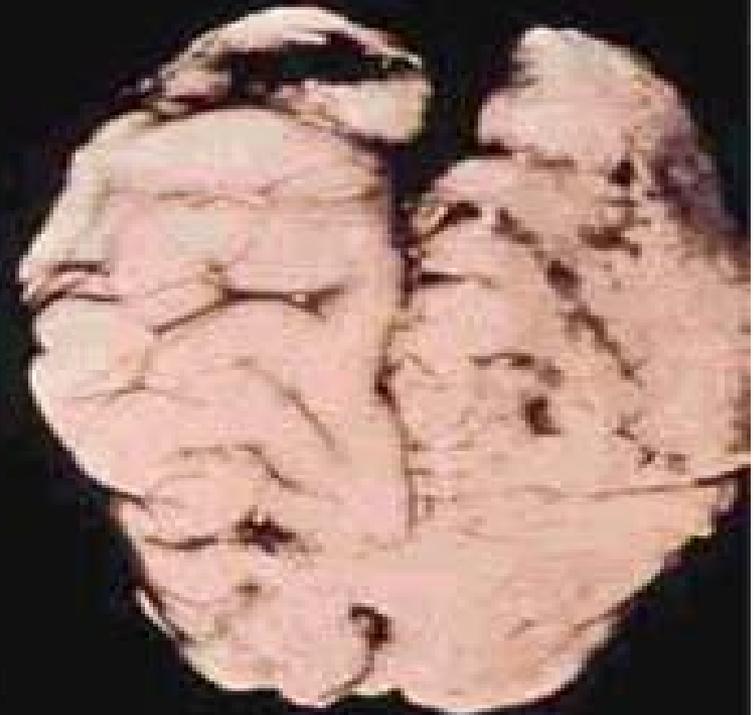


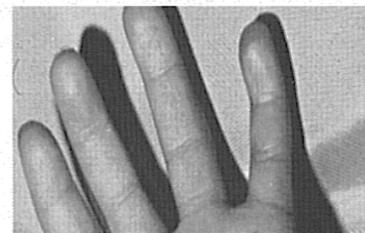
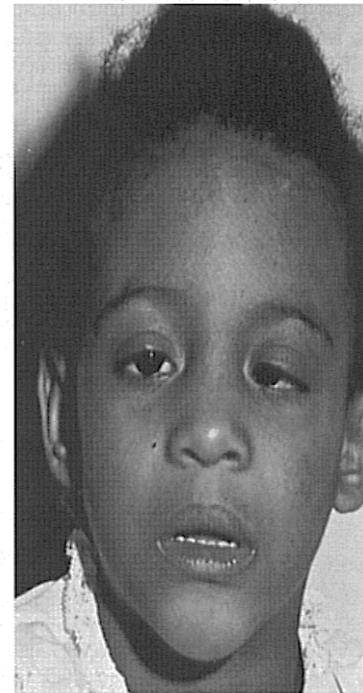
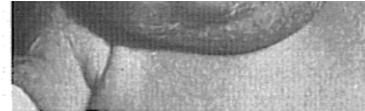
Photo courtesy of Sterling Clarren MD

Prenatal alcohol use also affects...

- Hearing and vision
- Heart and kidneys
- Cleft palate
- Liver
- Sinus problems
- Skeletal muscles
- Mild facial anomalies

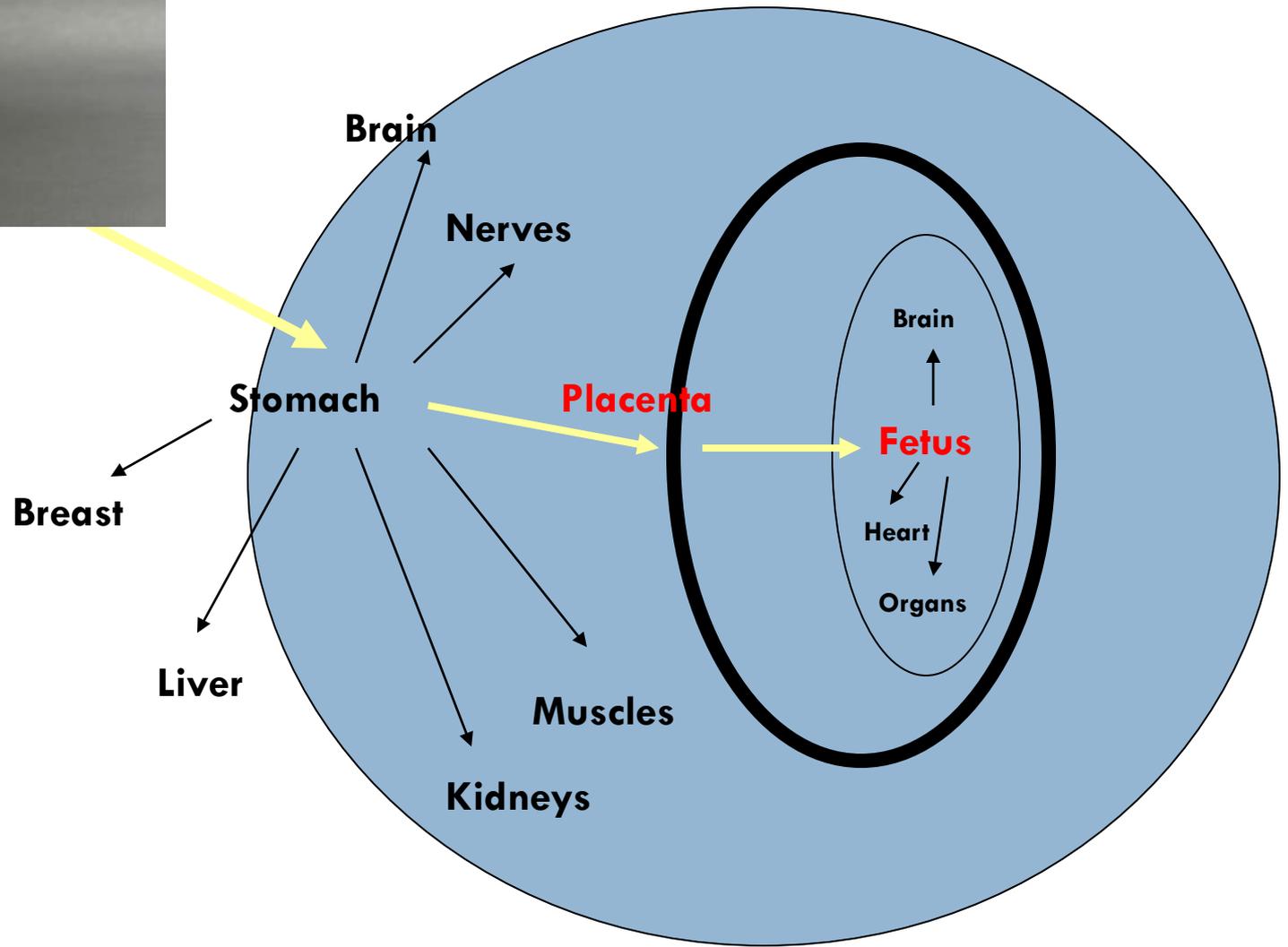
FAS: other affects....

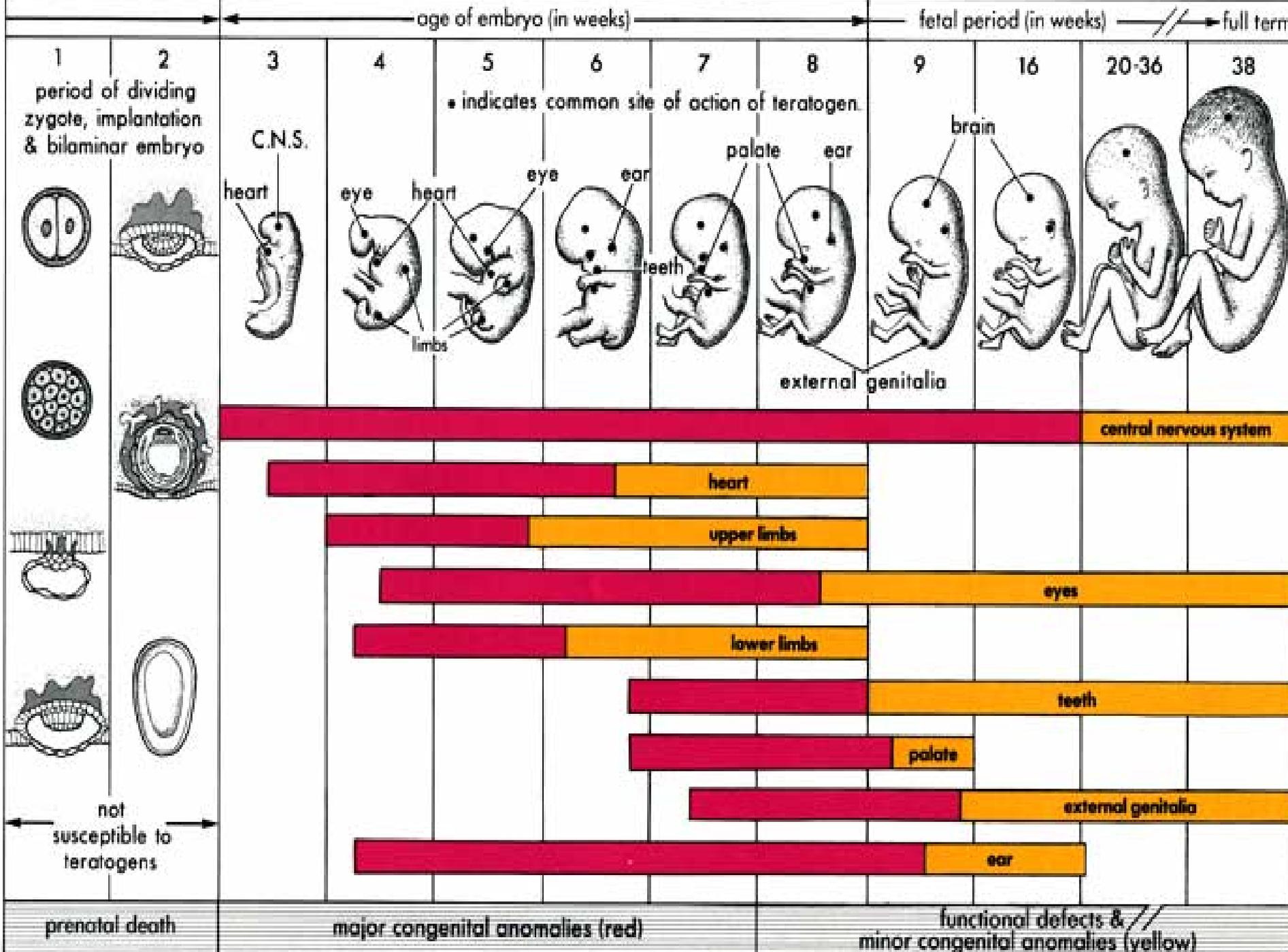
Skeletal: joint abnormalities, small distal phalanges, small 5th fingernails
Cardiac: heart murmur, ventricular septal defect most common



Nature of the Agent

- **Ability to cross the placenta**
 - Ethanol readily crosses the placenta
 - It is a 2 carbon alcohol
 - small molecule
 - lightly charged molecule
 - dissolves well in lipids





When is it Safe to Drink?

- ❑ No known safe time—the brain develops throughout the pregnancy.
- ❑ No safe amount—alcohol is alcohol.
- ❑ No safe kind of alcohol—beer, wine, and hard liquor are all alcohol.
- ❑ Effects are different with different mothers and babies.
- ❑ Stopping use at any time in pregnancy is helpful.

Type of Alcohol

- Key element is the amount of absolute ethanol *regardless of the vehicle*



Economic Costs of FAS

- **FAS alone is estimated to cost the United States nearly \$4 billion each year.**
- **The average lifetime cost for each child with FAS is almost \$3 million.**



Incidence of Birth Defects

- Down syndrome.....1/800 births
- Cleft lip+/-palate.....1/800 births
- Spina bifida.....1/1000 births
- Fetal alcohol syndrome.....1-2/1000 births
 - ▣ ~8800 U.S. babies with FAS per year
 - ▣ Many more with alcohol induced problems
 - ▣ Higher rates in some populations

- Birth defects from Illicit drugs.....????
(not one newborn health problem associated with illicit drug use reported via Garrett's Law in AR)

Strengths of Persons with an FASD

- Friendly & cheerful
- Likable
- Curious
- Helpful
- Verbal
- Determined
- Have points of insight
- Hard working



Typical Difficulties for Persons with an FASD

□ Sensory

- Over sensitive to bright lights, certain clothing, tastes/textures, loud sounds, etc.

□ Physical

- Have problems with balance and motor coordination (may seem “clumsy”).
- Poor body awareness (may hug too tight, etc.)

Typical Difficulties for Persons with an FASD

- Information Processing
 - ▣ Don't complete tasks/chores.
 - ▣ Have trouble determining what to do in a given situation.
 - ▣ Have trouble with changes in tasks and routines.
 - ▣ Misinterpret others' words, actions, or body movements.



Typical Difficulties for Persons with an FASD

- Executive Functioning & Decision Making
 - ▣ Repeatedly breaks rules
 - ▣ Gives in to peer pressure
 - ▣ Struggle with abstract concepts
 - ▣ Tend not to learn from mistakes or natural consequences
 - ▣ Naïve or gullible
 - ▣ Impulsive

Risks of Not Accurately Identifying & Treating an FASD

- ❑ Unemployment
- ❑ Loss of family
- ❑ Homelessness
- ❑ Jail
- ❑ Increased substance use
- ❑ Increased suicidality
- ❑ Wrong treatment or intervention



Secondary Conditions



- ❑ Mental health problems
- ❑ Disrupted school experience
- ❑ Legal involvement
- ❑ Inappropriate sexual behavior
- ❑ Substance use
- ❑ Dependent living problems

Protective Factors

Environmental

- Living in stable and nurturing home
- Being diagnosed before age 6
- Not being a victim of violence
- Not having frequent changes of household
- Having received developmental disabilities services



Children and Families with FASD will Benefit from...



HOPE

What else can you do?

- ❑ Help spread the word about the dangers of drinking during pregnancy!
- ❑ It is estimated that over 5,000 babies each year in the U.S. are born with FAS. Between 35,000 and 50,000 are born with alcohol related disorders (FASD), however most cases of FASD go undiagnosed.
- ❑ Advocate for early diagnosis and intervention services.
- ❑ Support families who are living with FASD.

HELPFUL WEBSITES

- www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fas/
- www.fascenter.samhsa.gov
- www.nofas.org
- www.mimh.edu/FAS
- www.come-over.to/FASCRC/

Site designed for parents

Questions/Comments



You can make a difference!!!!



THANK YOU FOR CARING!!!
Carol