

Statewide Task Force on Prescription Drug Abuse & Newborns Policy Recommendations Worksheet

I. Prevention

To deter the onset of addiction by providing individuals with the information and skills necessary to stop the problem of prescription drug abuse.

Policy Recommendation	Assignment
1. Develop a coordinated statewide public awareness initiative intended to educate the public about the dangers of prescription drug abuse during pregnancy.	Attorney General Department of Children & Families Department of Health Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions March of Dimes
2. Collaborate with community anti-drug coalitions to ensure that all expert recommendations and evidence-based practices are developed and implemented through the strategic planning process.	Department of Children & Families
3. Ensure that all school-based prescription-drug-specific primary prevention efforts are properly developed, evidence-based, rigorously evaluated, and sustainable.	Department of Children & Families Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association Drug Policy Advisory Council
4. Develop and implement an evidence-based positive relationship development campaign to strengthen Florida's families.	Department of Health Department of Children & Families
5. Require a warning label on prescribed opiates. Also, have warning signage at all pharmacy counters and pain clinics.	Department of Health March of Dimes
6. Establish "End Drug & Alcohol Exposed Newborn" Day at the Capitol to raise awareness to the dangers of using or misusing alcohol and drugs during pregnancy.	Department of Health Department of Children & Families Attorney General

II. Intervention & Best Practices

This is a broad category that can include: medical training, prenatal health care screenings, methods that detect and respond to substance exposure at the time of delivery, as well as interventions that provide services for the newborn as well as the family immediately after birth.

Policy Recommendation	Assignment
1. Make drug screening patients a best practice policy for obstetricians. This can occur by urinalysis testing, a questionnaire or via the state's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) to identify controlled substance use or abuse as part of a patient standard of care.	Department of Health Florida Medical Association Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

<p>2. Develop continuing education credits for medical professionals that enhance the knowledge and skills needed to effectively manage chronic pain, treat substance use disorders, and prevent prescription drug diversion.</p>	<p>Department of Health Florida Medical Schools Board of Governors</p>
<p>3. Develop curriculum for Florida nursing and medical schools to address addiction as brain disease.</p>	<p>Department of Health Florida's Medical Schools Board of Governors</p>
<p>4. Create a toolkit of "best practices" for nurses who are caring for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) newborns and their families.</p>	<p>Florida Nurses Association</p>
<p>5. Collaborate with local communities (hospital staff, medical personnel, Healthy Start, Early Steps) to provide a system of "case conferencing" NAS infants to coordinate services before discharge from a hospital.</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families Department of Health Healthy Start</p>
<p>6. Develop the capacity of the Behavioral Health Epidemiology Workgroup to identify mothers at high risk of giving birth to a drug-exposed infants and obtain access to previously unexamined data sources (like private insurance company data and the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program).</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families Office of Insurance Regulation</p>
<p>7. Expand the Screening Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) model beyond health care settings to other settings where at-risk mothers can be reached.</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families Department of Health</p>
<p>8. Develop Medicaid policy on prenatal drug screening methods with establishment of reimbursement rules for documentation of appropriate screening.</p>	<p>Agency for Healthcare Administration</p>
<p>9. Without making it mandatory, find innovative ways to increase use of Florida's PDMP among medical professionals.</p>	<p>Department of Health Florida Medical Association Florida Osteopathic Medical Association</p>
<p>10. Create an immunity provision in Florida law for any pregnant woman who seeks to receive treatment (similar to Florida's Good Samaritan Emergency Response Act).</p>	
<p>11. Create a toolkit to assist communities with establishing and maintaining Substance Exposed Newborn Workgroups.</p>	<p>Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions Department of Health Department of Children & Families Attorney General</p>
<p>12. Work with federal agencies (Office of National Drug Control Policy, National Institutes of Health -</p>	<p>Department of Health Agency for Healthcare Administration</p>

<p>specifically the National Institute on Drug Abuse and National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Government Accountability Office) to fund research projects in Florida aimed at: (1) understanding the full economic costs associated with NAS in the state of Florida, (2) enhancing our understanding of effective treatment methods for infants with NAS and mothers with opiate dependence and (3) understanding the long-term consequences of maternal opiate pain reliever abuse on children.</p>	<p>Attorney General</p>
--	-------------------------

III. Treatment

This area covers medical and/or psychotherapeutic care for substance dependencies such as alcohol, illegal drugs, or prescription drugs.

Policy Recommendation	Assignment
<p>1. Develop protocols for treatment of drug addicted newborns as well as recommendations for alternatives to narcotics for pain management in pregnant women.</p>	<p>Florida Medical Association Florida Osteopathic Medical Association Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative</p>
<p>2. Expand access to inpatient drug intervention treatment facilities in underserved areas of state.</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families</p>
<p>3. Increase the number of residential substance abuse treatment beds available for women with children.</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association</p>
<p>4. Develop and enhance Intensive Outpatient Treatment so it becomes an appropriate and accessible level of care for pregnant women and mothers.</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families</p>
<p>5. Apply for federal and private grants that expand access to evidence-based behavioral interventions for at-risk mothers (like electronic-therapy and nonresidential community-based care).</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families</p>
<p>6. Establish data base shared by all treatment centers in Florida reporting diagnosis and treatment and outcome data on prenatal and newborn treatment.</p>	<p>Department of Children & Families</p>