

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Primary Disabilities

A Primary Disability is a disability caused directly by Prenatal Alcohol Exposure (PAE). Individuals with FASD may have the following types of Primary Disabilities:

- Academic Achievement
- Adaptive Behaviour and Social Skills
- Affect Regulation
- Attention / Hyperactivity
- Cognition
- Executive Functioning Skills
- Language and Communication
- Learning and Memory- encoding / working memory
- Motor Skills
- Sensory Integration

Adverse Outcomes

An Adverse Outcome is a situation that can occur when the environment is a poor fit with meeting the needs and developmental age of the individual with FASD. Individuals with FASD are at risk of the following Adverse Outcomes:

- Being confined in prison, substance use treatment centres, psychiatric treatment centres, or residential care
- Disrupted school experience
- Frustration, irritability, tantrums, and acting out
- Getting into trouble with police
- Involvement with Child Welfare
- High risk of being neglected and abused (physically, sexually, and/or emotionally)
- Homelessness
- Inappropriate sexual behaviours
- Mental health disorders
- Problems with employment
- Substance use problems

Average Profile of Individual with FASD at 18 years

Expressive Language – 20 years
Comprehension – 6 years
Money and time – 8 years
Emotional maturity – 6 years
Physical maturity – 18 years
Reading – 16 years
Social skills – 7 years
Living skills – 11 years