

# *Health IT Innovations to Support Long Term Surveillance and Treatment of Opioid Exposure in Children*

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**SAMHSA**  
Substance Abuse and Mental Health  
Services Administration

# HHS 5-POINT STRATEGY TO COMBAT THE OPIOIDS CRISIS



**Better** addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services



**Better** data



**Better** pain management



**Better** targeting of overdose reversing drugs



**Better** research

 [HHS.GOV/OPIOIDS](https://www.hhs.gov/opioids)

# Selected SAMHSA activities

- 2-day expert panel, “The Developmental Impact on Children of Opioid Use during Pregnancy, and Pragmatic Approaches to Support Children and Families,” on April 8 and April 9, 2018.
  - “Opioid exposure: Early childhood mental disorders among infants born with neonatal abstinence syndrome.” Psychiatric Services, in press.
  - “The cognitive and behavioral impacts on children of opioid use during pregnancy: pragmatic approaches to supporting children and families”, in development

# Selected SAMHSA initiatives

- Two workgroups:
  - Federal workgroup on the Impact of Opioids on Young Children and Families.
    - The workgroup consists of members from across HHS (e.g. SAMHSA, HRSA, ACF, CDC, IHS, ASPE) as well as the Departments of Justice, Education and USDA.
  - Protect our Infant Act workgroup
    - Became law on November 25, 2015. The Act (Public Law 114-91)
    - Addresses problems related to prenatal opioid exposure and includes several mandates for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

# Selected SAMHSA initiatives

- Early Childhood Mental Health Grant Program (nine grants awarded at the end of September, 2018)
  - To increase access to promotion, prevention and treatment services for young children at risk for or showing signs of behavioral health problems, including children exposed to opioids in-utero, and children living in families with opioid misuse.
- SAMHSA's Pregnancy and Postpartum Women program has created several Fact Sheets for clinicians, women and their families.



# Selected SAMHSA Programs, continued

## **Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC)**

- IECMHC improves children’s lives by supporting their social, emotional, and behavioral health and development.
- IECMHC is a prevention-based service that pairs a mental health consultant with families and adults who work with infants and young children in the different settings where they learn and grow, such as child care, preschool, and their home. The aim is to build adults’ capacity to strengthen and support the healthy social and emotional development of children—early and before intervention is needed.

# HHS National Center on Substance Abuse and Child Welfare

- Working directly with states and communities to help them form partnerships amongst Ob/GYNs, hospitals, child welfare, substance use treatment, and courts to support pregnant women with opioid use disorders and their infants, to develop protocols and plans of safe care for mothers and infants.
- <https://ncsacw.samhsa.gov/>



# Selected SAMHSA Resources

- SAMHSA-HRSA Center for Integrated Health Solutions <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/>
- The National Child Traumatic Stress Network <https://www.nctsn.org/>
- National Center for Substance Abuse and Child Welfare <https://ncsacw.samhsa.gov/>
- SAMHSA's *Treating Women, Children, and Families* Webpage <https://www.samhsa.gov/women-children-families/publications-resources>

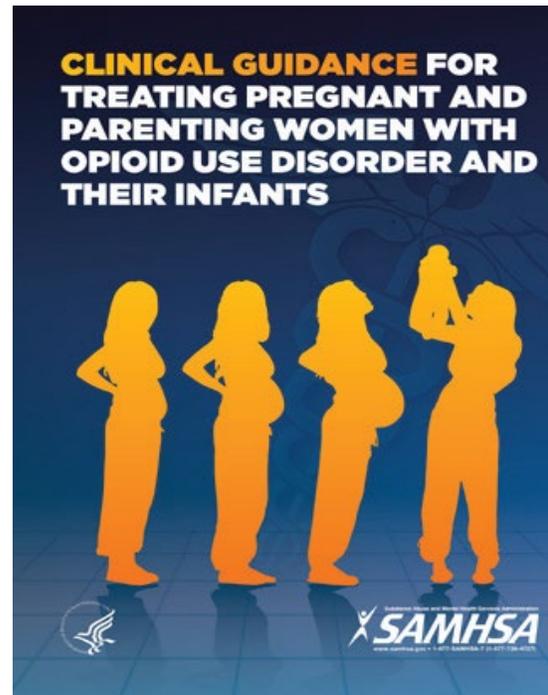


# Resources Continued

- **Depression in Mothers: More Than the Blues** <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Depression-in-Mothers-More-Than-the-Blues/SMA14-4878>
- **Clinical Guidance for Treating Pregnant and Parenting Women with Opioid Use Disorder and their Infants** <https://store.samhsa.gov/product/Clinical-Guidance-for-TreatingPregnantand-Parenting-Women-With-Opioid-Use-Disorder-and-Their-Infants/SMA18-5054>

## Depression in Mothers: More Than the Blues

*A Toolkit for Family Service Providers*



# Surveillance and NAS

- NCBDDD collaborated with the March of Dimes and Tennessee Department of Health to link infants born with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) identified through administrative claims data to State Department of Education data to assess select special education outcomes during early childhood.
- The Trans-NIH baby Brain Cognitive Development (bBCD) Study

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/funding/grant-writing-and-application-process/concept-clearances/2018/the-trans-nih-baby-brain-cognitive-development-bbcd-study.shtml>

- Goal is to enroll a large cohort of pregnant women (7500) to study the impact of prenatal opioid exposure

# Health IT issues relating to supporting children with NAS

- Data:
  - Linking maternal data with pediatric data
    - Logistics of linking this information
    - Limitations with 42CFR
  - Developing common data elements and tracking similar datapoints across multiple systems
- Service utilization
  - Population more vulnerable to variable service utilization
- Clinical decision support tools for screenings for developmental delays, social emotional concerns, etc.
- Tracking information across service sectors (e.g. linking health data with educational data)

# Discussion

