

Prenatal Substance Exposure – Why should I care?



Course Time: Approximately 30 to 45 minutes including the pre and post tests.

Course Description:

This course describes how prenatal substance exposure has the potential to cause a variety of physical and developmental challenges for Drug Endangered Children (DEC) throughout their lives. You will be able to recognize the part you play in identifying children who are at risk, begin the earliest possible intervention even while still in utero, and understand your ability to change the trajectory of the child's life. Intervention begins by starting a conversation using interviewing techniques and providing resources and sharing information with community partners.

Target audience:

Law enforcement, child welfare, medical, legal, education and first responders.

Learning Objectives:

After completing this course you will be able to:

- Identify the effects of maternal substance use or exposure to drug activity during pregnancy.
- Recognize the importance of early identification and intervention in changing the trajectory of a child's life and breaking the intergenerational cycle of abuse.
- Select appropriate techniques to engage in conversation with prenatal subjects.
- Provide prenatal subjects with information about resources available to them in their community.
- Recognize the essential elements required for a multidisciplinary collaborative response to meet the needs of drug endangered children.
- Choose appropriate next steps to take after completing this module.

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For more information on Drug Endangered Children, please contact National DEC:

www.nationaldec.org



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