Consultancy
Our team clinicians offer consultancy to health and social care staff across Scotland to support them in FASD assessment, diagnosis and pathway development.

Prevention
This includes promoting the message:

**no alcohol**

**no risk**

Support
We are currently developing an FASD Collaborator role where partners and colleagues can sign up to raise awareness of FASD and prevention messages.

Research
Following the pilot programme the team are now undertaking research to ensure the voices of affected individuals are heard.

Communication
The team are continually exploring ways to communicate messages about FASD. In this newsletter you will read about FASD Awareness Day and how you can get involved in this campaign.

Training
The team offer various training and is currently in the process of developing a Train the Trainer programme, you can read more about this later in the newsletter.

Become an FASD Collaborator
In order to support the work of the team we are looking for FASD Collaborators to help raise awareness the ‘no alcohol, no risk’ message and start discussions with others about FASD.

This is an awareness raising role where you can use opportunities to discuss FASD and prevention messages with people you come into contact with.

For example:
- Raise awareness of the no alcohol, no risk during pregnancy message
- Raise awareness of FASD at a basic level and signpost people to where they can find out more information, for example the Ayrshire & Arran website
- Take part in campaign activities by displaying materials, sharing messages via websites/social media and carrying out other activities for FASD Awareness Day on 9th September each year
- Follow relevant social media accounts and share information with your networks.

You can find out more about the FASD Collaborator role here.
https://www.nhsaaa.net/media/7891/fasd-collaborator-role-final.pdf
Team Changes

Our team has undergone some changes, please find below information on the members of our team and what they do.

Dr Sarah Brown
Consultant Paediatrician, MBChB, MRCPCH, MMEd

Dr Sarah Brown is a Consultant Paediatrician based within Rainbow House Child Development Centre, NHS Ayrshire & Arran. Dr Brown has longstanding interests in advocating for the needs of Looked After and Accommodated Children and is the Lead Paediatrician for LAAC across all 3 IHSCP’s.

Dr Brown is the Lead Clinician for the Scottish Government Fetal Alcohol Advisory and Support Team and is committed to supporting the nationwide development of FAAST services and improving clinician confidence in the diagnosis of FASD. Dr Brown holds a Masters Degree in Medical Education from the University of Dundee and regularly teaches and presents at conferences on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Dr Brown is a member of the FASD SIGN Guideline Group.

Dr Jennifer Shields
Principal Clinical Psychologist, BA (Hons) Psychology, D Clin Psy., PG Dip

Dr Jennifer Shields is a Principal Clinical Psychologist based in the Fetal Alcohol Assessment and Support Team within NHS Ayrshire & Arran. Following two years working in the West Dunbartonshire Acquired Brain Injury Service, she completed a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. Whilst working clinically within the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service in North Ayrshire, Dr Shields also completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Paediatric Clinical Neuropsychology.

Dr Shields has a longstanding interest in neurodevelopmental conditions and acquired brain injury and has presented at conferences nationally and internationally. Dr Shields was a member of the working group for the SIGN Guideline for children and young people exposed prenatally to alcohol (156).
Rachel Burn
FASD/Maternal Health Public Health Officer
Rachel is currently based within Public Health, however throughout her career she has had a keen interest in raising awareness of the risks associated with drinking alcohol during pregnancy and FASD. Rachel works alongside the Fetal Alcohol Advisory and Support Team and is committed to providing support to develop FASD work at a local and national level.

David Zammitt
Research Assistant Psychologist
David Zammitt is a research assistant psychologist working within NHS Ayrshire and Arran’s Fetal Alcohol Advisory and Support Team (FAAST). Having worked in business for almost ten years, David completed an MSc in psychology at the University of Glasgow in 2018. David has an interest in neurodevelopmental conditions, and completed his master’s research on loneliness in autism. David’s work is currently focused on researching attitudes towards the diagnosis of FASD.

Meet the team
We are on Twitter
As part of building an online presence the team now have a Twitter account, you can follow us here:
@FASDAdvisoryAAA

Lindsey Murphy
Project Team Lead
Lindsey joined the team in 2019 with a degree in Business Administration and an MSc in Health studies. She has worked with NHS Ayrshire and Arran for 18 years and her previous position was within the Public Health Department. Lindsey’s role is to provide project planning expertise and support the team in planning, delivering and evaluating their activities under each of the six work strands. Lindsey leads on the support, communications and training areas of the team’s remit.

Joanne Henderson
Admin Assistant
Joanne has 19 years’ service with NHS Ayrshire & Arran providing secretarial and admin support for the team on Wednesdays and Thursday afternoons. Joanne organises meetings, events and team diaries... which can be a challenge!

Joanne joined the team in March 2019 and has provided a key role in organising the national roadshows which the team has delivered over recent months.
On 18th and 19th June, we welcomed our colleagues from the Manitoba FASD Centre in Winnipeg, Canada for two days of FASD Diagnosis and Management Training.

The Manitoba team have been pioneers in FASD research and clinical application, and have been an immense support to our team in Ayrshire and Arran as we have built our own service in Scotland over the last five years.

Organised by the Scottish Government and held at the Golden Jubilee Conference Hotel in Glasgow, the event brought together attendees from a wide range of professional disciplines, including psychology, nursing, paediatrics, psychiatry, speech and language and occupational therapy. In total, over 120 individuals from health boards across Scotland joined us for the two days.

The event was opened by John Froggatt, Deputy Director, Improving Health and Wellbeing at the Scottish Government, and was facilitated by Dr Chris Steer, Scottish Government Advisor. Dr Steer, along with Moira Plant, Professor of Alcohol Studies, University of the West of England, and Dr Jen Shields (Principal Clinical Psychologist) and Dr Sarah Brown (Consultant Paediatrician) from our own team introduced the event and set out the context for the SIGN guideline on Children and young people exposed prenatally to alcohol which was published in January of this year.

The team from Manitoba then took the audience through best practice related to the assessment, diagnosis and management of FASD, and separate breakout sessions for each of the disciplines were led by Dr Ana Hanlon-Dearman (paediatrics), Shelley Proven (speech and language), Kellsey Scheepers (occupational therapy), and Nicole Taylor (psychology) respectively. Teams were also given the opportunity to work together in multidisciplinary teams on FASD case studies in order to practise and refine their diagnostic skills.

Feedback and data on the efficacy of the training was gathered from attendees, and we will report on this soon.

Many thanks also to the Scottish Government’s FASD Implementation Group for their hard work in organising the event.

Our own team shared findings from the Ayrshire and Arran FASD pilot project which ran from 2015 to 2018, and the similarities between the cases seen on both sides of the Atlantic were clear, adding further weight to the growing body of evidence related to the neuropsychological profiles seen within FASD, as well as the management of the condition.
FASD Awareness Day takes place every year on 9th September

The team have a briefing paper for partners which provides information on FASD and ideas and suggestions of how you can support this campaign to raise awareness of FASD and the no alcohol, no risk message. The briefing paper can be accessed here:

FASD Awareness Day 9th September Partner Briefing Paper

We will be posting updates on our Twitter page, sharing blogs and other news in the run up to and during the campaign and you can find out more by visiting our website:

https://www.nhsaaa.net/services-a-to-z/fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-fasd/

FASD Hub Scotland

We are pleased to announce that Adoption UK Scotland have now launched a support service for parents and carers of children and young people who are affected by FASD (or suspected to be).

You can access a flyer for the Hub here: FASD Hub Scotland

Training opportunities

Due to the large number of training enquiries being received by the team, we have decided to develop a ‘Train the Trainer’ programme. Once people have attended this training and completed the course requirements they will be provided with materials and information to allow them to provide FASD briefing sessions. Contact the team now to note your interest in this opportunity.

The team are also contributing to the development of a suite of national FASD elearning modules which should be available later this year. These will be available online and further information will be shared through the team website and Twitter account.

You can continue to access training dates for the Public Health FASD Training Calendar here.

Join our mailing list

If you want to be kept up-to-date on FASD news and activities get in touch with the team and ask to be added to our distribution list.

Contact us

Follow us on Twitter: @FASDAvisoryAAA

Visit our website: https://www.nhsaaa.net/services-a-to-z/fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorder-fasd/

Email us: aa-uhb.fasdadvisoryteam@nhs.net