

Developmental Consequences of Fetal Exposure to Prenatal Drug Use

Alcohol

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS); abnormalities in the brain; cognitive delays; deficits in attention, memory, verbal fluency, mental functioning, reaction time, and motor learning

Methamphetamine

Cardiac/cardiovascular abnormalities; skull/brain abnormalities; problems in attention, memory and motivation; aggression and delinquent behavior; short and long-term growth deficits; emotional and social issues



Marijuana

Reduced learning and memory abilities; sleep disturbances; deficits in attention; increased impulsivity; long-term issues in mental function and self-regulation

Opiates & Heroin

Heart defects; lower IQ; motor and mental impairments; attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD); Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS); respiratory problems

Cocaine

Poor quality of movement and self-regulation; poor cognitive performance in language skills and behavior; behavioral problems; anxious/depressed behaviors and symptoms

Information adapted by National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children from https://www.nature.com/articles/npp2014147#f3



This project was supported by cooperative agreement number - 20 I7CKWXK008 awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions contained herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. References to specific agencies, companies, products, or services should not be considered an endorsement by the author(s) or the U.S. Department of Justice. Rather, the references are illustrations to supplement discussion of the issues. The Internet references cited in this publication were valid as of the date of this publication. Given that URLs and websites are in constant flux, neither the author(s) nor the COPS Office can vouch for their current validity. Copyright© 2019 National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children. The U.S. Department of Justice reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish, or otherwise use, and authorize others to use, this resource for Federal Government purposes. This resource may be freely distributed and used for noncommercial and educational purposes only.