

SECTION 5

DIAGNOSIS & ASSESSMENT OF FASD

FASD assessments help to determine the strengths and challenges present for a person and help to identify what interventions and supports may be required

IDENTIFYING PEOPLE WHO MAY HAVE FASD

It is important for people who may have FASD to be identified in order for practices to be appropriately adapted, resources obtained, and a referral for an assessment made. The following are potential identification strategies:

STRATEGY	ADAPTATION	CONSIDERATIONS
Incorporate brief questions about FASD into existing intake processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add questions about FASD to referral or intake forms • Add FASD-informed questions to intake interviews • Ask questions about FASD once rapport has been built with client 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider what the best time is to ask questions about FASD • Adopt a “universal” approach to questions about FASD • Ask FASD questions at the beginning of support to help with planning
Invite conversations with clients about FASD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have curious conversations about FASD • If requested, share information about FASD • Engage in conversations about strengths and needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask direct and respectful questions • Thoughtfully consider when and with who to have conversations about FASD • Consider biases
Review records	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review records, with consent from the client, which may give important insight 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review records to inform further conversation, and identify needs and strengths

SUPPORT THROUGH DIAGNOSTIC/ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- Confirm the number and order of appointments, check-in, and establish reminders
- Co-create a schedule and arrange transportation if needed
- Provide emotional support and education
- Refer the individual to services that can be accessed without a diagnosis while waiting for assessment
- Advocate for the individual and support their family
- Act as a system navigator