

Top FASD Articles of 2021

The articles below were selected by a group of Canada FASD Research Network (CanFASD) staff, Research Leads, and Family Advisory Committee members to highlight some of the work that has been published over the last year in the field of FASD.

A search of Web of Science, PubMed, PsycInfo, CINAHL, Ovid Medline databases, and a manual search of selected scientific journals yielded over 750 articles published in 2021 on FASD and PAE. Many of these were excellent publications and the final list was narrowed down to focus on CanFASD's areas of emphasis in FASD, categorized below. Additional considerations for what constituted the "top" articles included:

- Generalizability to Canadians
- Influence on practice or policy
- Novelty
- Scientific rigour
- Media attention

Final selections were categorized by area of focus and limited to a maximum of five articles per category. All articles are published in peer-reviewed journals. They are arranged in alphabetical order by first author's surname, and those in bold are available in open access.

Screening, Assessment, and Diagnosis

1. **Cook, J., Unsworth, K., & Flannigan K. (2021). Characterising fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in Canada: a national database protocol study. *BMJ Open*, 11(9), e046071. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2020-046071**
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
2. Grubb, M., Golden, A., Withers, A., Vellone, D., Young, A., & McLachlan, K. (2021). Screening approaches for identifying fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in children, adolescents, and adults: A systematic review. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 45(8), 1527–1547. doi:10.1111/acer.14657
[Abstract](#)
3. Reid, N., Hawkins, E., Liu, W., Page, M., Webster, H., Katsikitis, M., Shelton, D., Wood, A., O'Callaghan, F., Morrissey, S., & Shanley, D. (2021). Yarning about fetal alcohol spectrum disorder: Outcomes of a community-based workshop. *Research in Developmental Disabilities*, 108. doi:10.1016/j.ridd.2020.103810
[Abstract](#)
4. Temple, V. K., Prasad, S., Popova, S., & Linday, A. (2021) Long-term outcomes following fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) diagnosis in adulthood. *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability*, 46(3), 272–280. doi:10.3109/13668250.2020.1824612
[Abstract](#)

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- Whittingham, L. M. & Coons-Harding, K. D. (2021). Connecting people with people: Diagnosing persons with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder using telehealth. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, 51(4), 1067–1080. doi:10.1007/s10803-020-04607-z
[Abstract](#)

Clinical Presentation

- Gardiner, E., Hutchison, S. M., McLachlan, K., Rasmussen, C., Pei, J., Masse, L. C., Oberland, T. F., & Reynolds, J. N. (2021). Behavior regulation skills are associated with adaptive functioning in children and adolescents with prenatal alcohol exposure. *Applied Neuropsychology: Child*, 1–11. doi:10.1080/21622965.2021.1936528
[Abstract](#)
- Kautz-Turnbull, C. & Petrenko, C. L. M. (2021). A meta-analytic review of adaptive functioning in fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, and the effect of IQ, executive functioning, and age. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research*, 45(12), 2430–2447. doi:10.1111/acer.14728
[Abstract](#)
- Kully-Martens, K., Pei, J., McNeil, A., & Rasmussen, C. (2021). Resilience resources and emotional and behavioral functioning among youth and young adults with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*. doi:10.1007/s11469-021-00652-6
[Abstract](#)
- Popova, S., Temple, V., Dozet, D., O’Hanlon, G., Toews, C., & Rehm, J. (2021). Health, social and legal outcomes of individuals with diagnosed or at risk for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder: Canadian example. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, 219:108487. doi:10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2020.108487**
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
- Reid, N., Hayes, N., Young, S. B., & Moritz, K. M. (2021). Caregiver-reported physical health status of children and young people with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. *Journal of Developmental Origins of Health and Disease*, 12(3), 420–427. doi:10.1017/s2040174420000537
[Abstract](#)

Intervention

- Durr, M. R., Petryk, S., Mela, M., DesRoches, A., Wekerle, M., & Newaz, S. (2021). Utilization of psychotropic medications in children with FASD: A retrospective review. *BMC Pediatrics*, 21. doi:10.1186/s12887-021-02986-5
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)

Top FASD Articles of 2021

12. Flannigan, K., Wrath, A. J., McFarlane, A., Murphy, L., & Rogozinski, L. (2021). Integrated service delivery in fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD): A review of the Alberta FASD Service Network Model. *Journal on Developmental Disabilities, 26*(2). doi:10.5281/zenodo.5711239
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
13. Kapasi, A., Pei, J., Kryska, K., Joly, V., Gill, K., Thompson-Hodgetts, S., McLachlan, K., Andrew, G., & Rasmussen, C. (2021) Exploring self-regulation strategy use in adolescents with FASD. *Journal of Occupational Therapy, Schools, & Early Intervention, 14*(2), 184–206. doi:10.1080/19411243.2020.1822260
[Abstract](#)
14. Nieto-Fernández, Z., Vidal, R., Gómez-Barros, N., & Ramos-Quiroga, J. A. (2021). Psychological interventions on fetal alcohol spectrum disorder across the life span. *Revue Neurologique, 72*(5):168–176. doi:10.33588/rn.7205.2020639
[Abstract](#)
15. Pei, J. E., Poth, C., Tremblay, M., & Walker, M. (2021) An integrative systems approach to enhancing service delivery for individuals with complex needs. *Current Developmental Disorders Reports, 8*(2), 57–68. doi:10.1007/s40474-021-00223-3
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)

Mental Health

16. Flannigan, K., McMorris, C., Ewasiuk, A., Badry, D., Mela, M., Gibbard, W. B., Unsworth, K., Cook, J., Harding, K. D. (2021). Suicidality and associated factors among individuals assessed for fetal alcohol spectrum disorder across the lifespan in Canada. *The Canadian Journal of Psychiatry. doi:10.1177/07067437211053288*
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)

*Prevention and Maternal/Parental Health

***Note:** The pNAT creates an annual annotated bibliography of articles on FASD prevention from around the world, organized by all the levels of prevention: <https://canfasd.ca/topics/prevention/>. The following Canadian studies were identified in the current search and are likely to be in the longer pNAT list when it is completed.

17. Harding, K. D., Whittingham, L., & McGannon, K. (2021). #sendwine: An analysis of motherhood, alcohol use, and #winemom culture on Instagram. *Substance Abuse: Research and Treatment, 15*, 1-9. doi:10.1177/11782218211015195
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
18. Hubberstey, C., Rutman, D., Van Bibber, M., & Poole N. (2021) Wraparound programmes for pregnant and parenting women with substance use concerns in Canada: Partnerships are essential. *Health and Social Care in the Community. doi:10.1111/hsc.13664*
[Abstract](#)

Top FASD Articles of 2021

19. Lyall, V., Wolfson, L., Reid, N., Poole, N., Moritz, K. M., Egert, S., ... Askew, D. A. (2021) "The problem is that we hear a bit of everything...": A qualitative systematic review of factors associated with alcohol use, reduction, and abstinence in pregnancy. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(7), 3445. doi:10.3390/ijerph18073445
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
20. Wolfson, L., Schmidt, R. A., Stinson, J., & Poole, N. (2021). Examining barriers to harm reduction and child welfare services for pregnant women and mothers who use substances using a stigma action framework. *Health and Social Care in the Community*, 29(3), 589-601. doi:10.1111/hsc.13335
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)

Child Welfare

21. Burns, J., Badry, D. E., Harding, K. D., Roberts, N., Unsworth, K., Cook, J. L. (2021) Comparing outcomes of children and youth with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) in the child welfare system to those in other living situations in Canada: Results from the Canadian National FASD Database. *Child: Care, Health and Development*, 47(1), 77–84. doi:10.1111/cch.12817
[Abstract](#)
22. Gilbert, D. J., Mukherjee, R. A. S., Kassam, N., & Cook, P. A. (2021). Exploring the experiences of social workers in working with children suspected to have fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. *Adoption & Fostering*, 45(2), 155–172. doi:10.1177/03085759211011735
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
23. Marcellus, L. & Badry, D. (2021). Infants, children, and youth in foster care with prenatal substance exposure: A synthesis of two scoping reviews. *International Journal of Developmental Disabilities*. doi:10.1080/20473869.2021.1945890
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)

Caregivers and Families

24. Balcaen, L., Santos, R., Roger, K., & Mignone, J. (2021). Families with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: Exploring adoptive parents' experiences of family well-being. *Adoption & Fostering*, 45(3):283–299. doi:10.1177/03085759211050044
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
25. Drotsky, L., Sondag, A., & Gretschel, P. (2021). Photo-elicited interviews: A method to create open communication for mothers raising children with foetal alcohol spectrum disorder. *International Journal of Qualitative Methods*, 20. doi:10.1177/16094069211040980
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
26. Petrenko, C. L. M., Kautz-Turnbull, C. C., Roth, A. R., Parr, J. E., Tapparella, C., Demir, U., & Olson, H. C. (2021). Initial feasibility of the "Families Moving Forward Connect" mobile

Top FASD Articles of 2021

health intervention for caregivers of children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: Mixed method evaluation within a systematic user-centered design approach. *JMIR Formative Research*, 5(12):e29687. doi:10.2196/29687

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27. Weinmann, T., Moder, J. E., Ordenewitz, L. K., Schlueter, J., Jung, J., Kerer, K., ... Landgraf, M. N. (2021). Assessing the needs of caregivers of children and adolescents with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: Results from a survey among families and professionals in Germany. *European Journal of Paediatric Neurology*, 33, 1–8. doi:10.1016/j.ejpn.2021.04.008

[Abstract](#)

Justice

28. Dickson, J. & Stewart, M. (2021). Risk, rights, and deservedness: Navigating the tensions of Gladue, fetal alcohol spectrum disorder and settler colonialism in Canadian courts. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*. doi:10.1002/bsl.2536

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29. Flannigan, K., Tremblay, M., Potts, S., Nelson, M., Brintnell, S., O’Riordan, T., Rasmussen, C., & Pei, J. (2021). Understanding the needs of justice-involved adults with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in an Indigenous community. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*. doi:10.1002/bsl.2554

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30. Hashmi, S., Richards, D., & Fedoroff, J. P. (2021). A descriptive analysis of sentencing decisions by the Canadian criminal justice system of people with intellectual disabilities convicted with sexual offences. *International Journal of Law and Psychiatry*, 78, 101730. doi:10.1016/j.ijlp.2021.101730

[Abstract](#)

31. Khalifa, N., Magee, T., Shirazi, S., Salman, S., Yang, C., & Mela, M. (2021). The neurocognitive profiles of justice involved people with foetal alcohol spectrum disorder: A systematic review. *Behavioral Sciences & the Law*. doi:10.1002/bsl.2550

[Abstract](#) [Free Full Abstract](#)

32. Russell, N. K., Tan, K. Y., Pestell, C. F., Connor, S., & Fitzpatrick, J. P. (2021) Therapeutic Recommendations in the youth justice system cohort diagnosed with foetal alcohol spectrum disorder. *Youth Justice*. doi:10.1177/14732254211036195

[Abstract](#)

Socio-Political, Ethical, and Policy-Related

33. Aspler, J., Bogossian, A., & Racine, E. (2021). “It’s ignorant stereotypes”: Key stakeholder perspectives on stereotypes associated with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, alcohol, and pregnancy. *Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disability*, 47(1), 53-64. doi:10.3109/13668250.2020.1865649

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Top FASD Articles of 2021

34. Dunbar Winsor, K. (2021). An invisible problem: Stigma and FASD diagnosis in the health and justice professions. *Advances in Dual Diagnosis, 14*(1), 8–19. doi:10.1108/add-07-2020-0014
[Abstract](#)
35. Flannigan, K., Wrath, A. J., Ritter, C., McLachlan, K., Harding, K. D., Campbell, A., Reid, D., & Pei, J. (2021). Balancing the story of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder: A narrative review of the literature on strengths. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research, 45*(12), 2448–2464. doi:10.1111/acer.14733
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
36. Olson, H. C. & Sparrow, J. (2021). A shift in perspective on secondary disabilities in fetal alcohol spectrum disorders. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research, 45*(5), 916–921. doi:10.1111/acer.14586
[Abstract](#)
37. Yousefi, N. & Chaufan, C. (2021). “Think before you drink”: Challenging narratives on foetal alcohol spectrum disorder and indigeneity in Canada. *Health*. doi:10.1177.13634593211038527
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)

Basic and Brain Science

38. Grimm, J., Stemmler, M., Golub, Y. Schwenke, E., Goecke, T. W., Fasching, P. A., ... Eichler, A. (2021). The association between prenatal alcohol consumption and preschool child stress system disturbance. *Developmental Psychobiology, 63*(4), 687–697. doi:10.1002/dev.22038
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
39. Kar, P., Reynolds, J. E., Grohs, M. N., Gibbard, W. B., McMorris, C., Tortorelli, C., & Lebel, C. (2021). White matter alterations in young children with prenatal alcohol exposure. *Developmental Neurobiology, 81*(4), 400–410. doi:10.1002/dneu.22821
[Abstract](#)
40. Lebel, C. A., Gibbard, W. B., Tortorelli, C., Pei, J., Beaulieu, Bagshawe, M., & McMorris, C. A. (2021). Prenatal Exposure And Child brain and mental Health (PEACH) study: Protocol for a cohort study of children and youth with prenatal alcohol exposure. *BMJ Open, 11*(5), e051660. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2021-051660
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
41. O’Neill, J., O’Connor, M. J., Kalender, G., Ly, R., Ng, A., Dillon, A. ... Levitt, J. G. (2021). Combining neuroimaging and behavior to discriminate children with attention deficit-hyperactivity disorder with and without prenatal alcohol exposure. *Brain Imaging and Behavior, 16*, 69-77. doi:10.1007/s11682-021-00477-w
[Abstract](#)
42. Okazaki, S., Otsuka, I., Shinko, Y., Horai, T., Hirata, T., Yamaki, N., ... Hishimoto, A. (2021). Epigenetic clock analysis in children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research, 45*(2), 329–337. doi:10.1111/acer.14532
[Abstract](#)

Animal

43. Creutzberg, K. C., Sanson, A., Viola, T. W., Marchisella, F., Begni, V., Grassi-Oliveira, R., & Riva, M. A. (2021). Long-lasting effects of prenatal stress on HPA axis and inflammation: A systematic review and multilevel meta-analysis in rodent studies. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, *127*, 270–283. doi:10.1016/j.neubiorev.2021.04.032
[Abstract](#)
44. Rodriguez, C. I., Vergara, V. M., Davies, S., Calhoun, V. D., Savage, D. D., Hamilton, D. A. (2021). Detection of prenatal alcohol exposure using machine learning classification of resting-state functional network connectivity data. *Alcohol*, *93*, 25–34. doi:10.1016/j.alcohol.2021.03.001
[Abstract](#)

Prevalence

45. Cook, J. L. (2021). Alcohol use during pregnancy and fetal alcohol spectrum disorder in Canada: who, what, where? *Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada: Research, Policy and Practice*, *41*(9), 264–266. doi:10.24095/hpcdcp.41.9.03
[Free Full Text](#)
46. May P. A., Hasken, J. M., Hooper, S. R., Hedrick, D. M., Jackson-Newsom, J., Mullis, C. E., ... Hoyme, H. E. (2021). Estimating the community prevalence, child traits, and maternal risk factors of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) from a random sample of school children. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence*, *227*, 108918. doi:10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2021.108918
[Abstract](#)
47. May, P. A., Hasken, J. M., Manning, M. A., & Hoyme, H. E. (2021). The challenges and pitfalls of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders prevalence studies. *Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research*, *45*(12), 2468–2470. doi:10.1111/acer.14735
48. Palmetier, S., Probert, A., & Lagacé, C. (2021). FASD prevalence among children and youth: Results from the 2019 Canadian Health Survey on Children and Youth. *Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada: Research, Policy and Practice*, *41*(9), 272–276. doi:10.24095/hpcdp.41.9.05
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)
49. Pei, J., Reid-Westoby, C., Siddiqua, A., Elshamy, Y., Rorem, D., Bennet, T. ... Janus, M. (2021). Teacher-reported prevalence of FASD in kindergarten in Canada: Association with child development and problems at home. *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*, *51*(2), 433–443. doi:10.1007/s10803-020-04545-w
[Abstract](#) [Free Full Text](#)