

Table 1 Diagnostic criteria and categories for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD)

FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDER		
Diagnostic criteria	Diagnostic categories	
	FASD with 3 Sentinel Facial Features	FASD with < 3 Sentinel Facial Features
Prenatal alcohol exposure	Confirmed or unknown	Confirmed
Neurodevelopmental domains - Brain structure/Neurology - Motor skills - Cognition - Language - Academic Achievement - Memory - Attention - Executive Function, including impulse control and hyperactivity - Affect Regulation - Adaptive Behaviour, Social Skills or Social Communication	Severe impairment in at least 3 neurodevelopmental domains	Severe impairment in at least 3 neurodevelopmental domains
Sentinel facial features - Short palpebral fissure - Smooth philtrum - Thin upper lip	Presence of 3 sentinel facial features	Presence of 0, 1 or 2 sentinel facial features

Key components of the FASD diagnostic assessment include documentation of:

- History – presenting concerns, obstetric, developmental, medical, mental health, behavioural, social;
- Birth defects – dysmorphic facial features, other major and minor birth defects;
- Adverse prenatal and postnatal exposures, including alcohol;
- Known medical conditions – including genetic syndromes and other disorders;
- Growth

Infants and young children under 6 years of age and older adolescents and adults warrant special consideration during the FASD diagnostic assessment process. (16) There are also circumstances where an individual may be considered to be ‘at risk’ of FASD. These special clinical considerations are discussed in detail in Section B: Neurodevelopmental Impairment.