

A scenic view of the University of Nevada, Reno campus. In the foreground, a large, active fountain sprays water into the air over a pond. The water is dark blue, and the fountain's spray is white and energetic. In the middle ground, there is a well-maintained green lawn with several trees, including a large evergreen and several bare deciduous trees. In the background, a large, multi-story brick building with a complex roofline and many windows is visible. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The overall atmosphere is bright and clear.

Center for the Application of
Substance Abuse Technologies (CASAT)
University of Nevada, Reno

CASAT's Mission

To improve the delivery of prevention and treatment services for individuals with mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders by helping states, organizations, communities, students, and the existing workforce apply research-based practices.

Overall Project Goal

The FASD Practice and Implementation Centers (PICs) and National Partners are to expand previous efforts from FASD training programs and shift the perspective from individual training for medical and allied health care professionals to impacting health care practice at the systems level and focusing on prevention opportunities.



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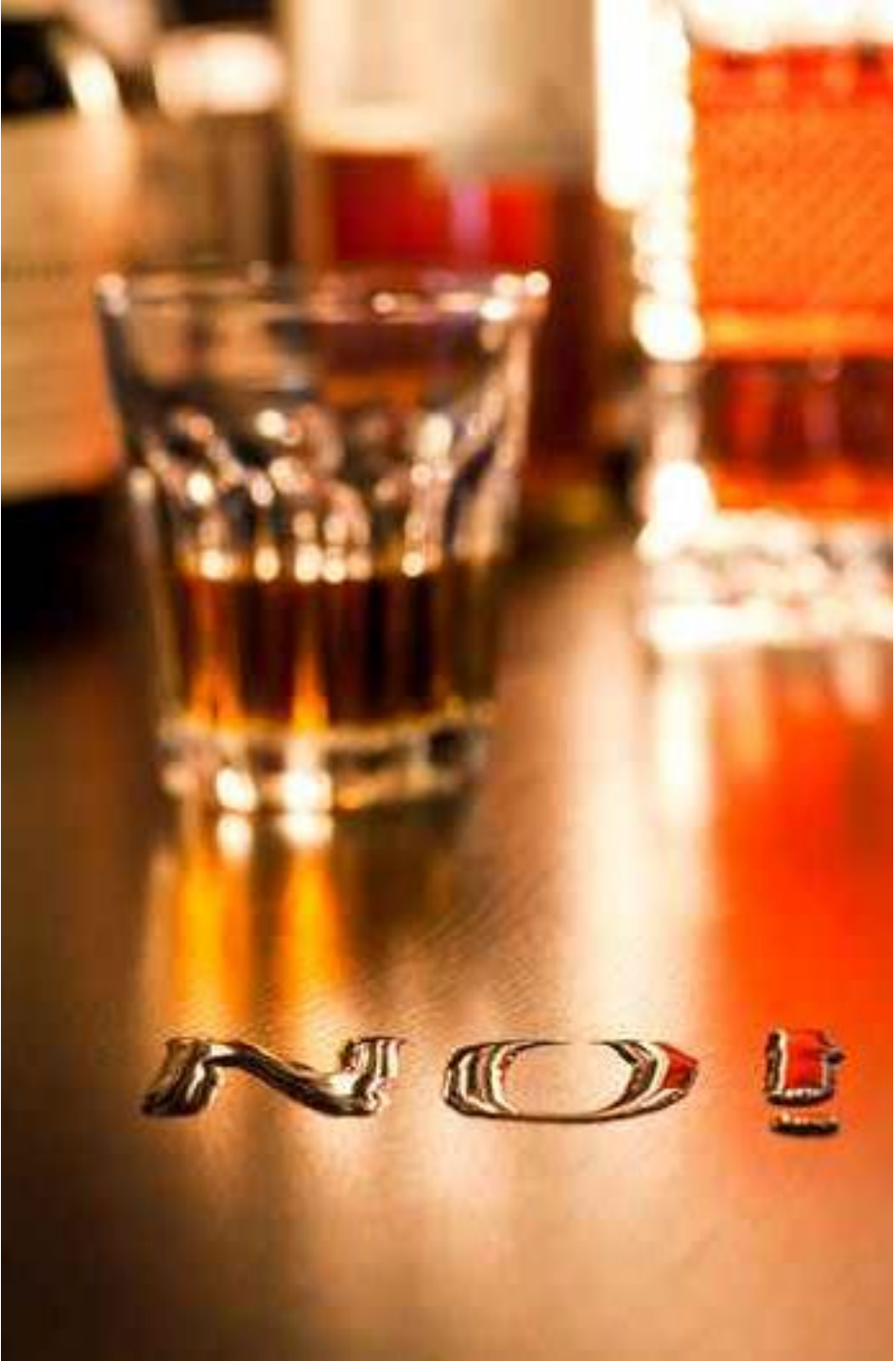


Not a clinical diagnosis

Prevalence and Costs

FAS	FASD
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0.2–1.5 cases per 1,000 births	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9–10 cases per 1,000 births
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Translates to about 1,000–6,000 alcohol-affected births per year	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Translates to about 40,000 alcohol-affected births per year
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estimated lifetime cost per individual: \$2 million	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estimated lifetime cost per individual: \$1.4–1.5 million

Comparable to other developmental disabilities (e.g., Down Syndrome, Autism)



NO Safe Time

NO Safe Type

NO Known
Safe Amount

Only one-third of women are assessed for alcohol use in routine prenatal care.



Even fewer are assessed in other settings.

Medical assistants may be
the key to routine screening



CMAAs (AAMA) are essential to ...

- Ensuring continuity of care by anticipating and addressing patient needs
- Presenting patient concerns and questions to physicians
- Building “communication bridges” between physicians, patients, and families





Medical assistants can be considered the “glue” that holds a practice together by ensuring delivery of coordinated health care services.

(Tache et al., 2010)

Goals

1. Increase the number of medical assistants who receive training on FASD and demonstrate an improvement of knowledge, attitudes, and skills
2. Increase the number of health care systems that adopt clinical preventive services that demonstrate improved practices regarding FASD prevention, identification, and treatment