

Ep. 87: Understanding REMS & Medication Safety in Pregnancy: What Patients & Providers Need to Know

Concerned about medication use during pregnancy? You're not alone.

In this episode of The MotherToBaby Podcast, host Chris Stallman, MS, CGC (genetic counselor, mom of four, teratogen information specialist) sits down with Dr. Judy C. Morrow of Harvard Medical School to break down how FDA REMS (Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy) programs help reduce the risk of birth defects and protect pregnant patients.

Together, they discuss:

- ✓ What REMS programs are and why they exist
- ✓ How REMS programs support safe medication use
- ✓ The role of manufacturers, prescribers, and pharmacists
- ✓ Common medications with REMS programs (including isotretinoin/Accutane)
- ✓ Pregnancy testing requirements & pharmacy restrictions
- ✓ Why some drugs don't have REMS (even if risks exist)
- ✓ What patients should ask if they're prescribed a REMS-covered medication

Dr. Morrow shares how researchers use real-world data to identify medication-related adverse events in pregnancy, how REMS programs try to prevent exposed pregnancies, and why communication between patients, providers, and pharmacists is essential.

If you're pregnant, planning a pregnancy, breastfeeding, or support patients in these settings, this episode offers clear, practical insights to help guide informed decision-making.

□ Key topics: pregnancy, REMS, FDA, teratogens, isotretinoin, Accutane, birth defects, pharmacy programs, medication safety, pregnancy data, registries

□ Listen now to learn how REMS programs help protect pregnant women and their babies.

Questions? Call 866.626.6847 | Text 855.999.3525 | Email or Chat at MotherToBaby.org.

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Ep. 87: Understanding REMS & Medication Safety in Pregnancy: What Patients & Providers Need to Know

In this episode, Jenn Wisdahl, Chief Operating Officer at the non-profit FASD United, and Laura Bousquet, a mother to a young adult son diagnosed with FASD in his teens, join host Chris Stallman, CGC to discuss challenges many families with lived FASD experience face. Wisdahl leads FASD United's legislative and policy agenda and trains members of the FASD community to serve as advocates. She was also an executive producer on the award-winning short film "The FASD Project," and is a proud parent to 3 young adults with FASD. Bousquet is a passionate FASD advocate and active FASD United Board member whose own FASD diagnosis at age 57 deepened her dedication to inspiring positive change in the FASD community.

BONUS: Earn continuing education credits for listening to our FASD 3-part series. Scroll down to learn more.

Resources Mentioned in This Episode:

- FASD Family Navigator – FASD United <https://fasdunited.org/family-navigator/>
- Resource Directory – FASD United <https://fasdunited.org/resource-directory/>
- Glimpses of FASD – FASD United <https://fasdunited.org/glimpses-of-fasd/>
- Give FASD a Seat at the Table – FASD United <https://fasdunited.org/give-fasd-a-seat-at-the-table/>
- FASD State Data Sheets – FASD United <https://fasdunited.org/fasd-state-data-sheets/>
- Video Series: Lived Experiences with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders – CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/fasd/stories/video-series.html>

MotherToBaby: FASD Podcast - Living with FASDs - January 23, 2025 (Podcast) - PD4929-012325

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: This podcast series is intended to reach various audiences, including healthcare professionals, who can use the information presented to inform their practice and their interaction with clients/patients. The podcast episodes will educate participants on 1) the discovery, prevalence, and newest research on the topic of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs), 2) CDC's work in addressing prenatal alcohol and other substance use and FASDs, and 3) the experiences of people living with FASDs.

OBJECTIVES:

After completing this course, the learner will be able to:

- [REDACTED]
- Describe the National Center of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities' (NCBDDD) approach to addressing FASDs.
- [REDACTED]
- Describe how interprofessional collaboration addresses FASDs.
- [REDACTED]

FACULTY/CREDENTIALS:

[REDACTED]
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Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, University of
California, San Diego Elizabeth Dang, MPH, Behavioral
Scientist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Nicholas Deputy, PhD, MPH, Health Scientist, Centers
for Disease Control and Prevention Kenneth Jones,
MD, Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, University
of California, San Diego [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CE ORIGINATION DATE:

January 23, 2025 January 23, 2027

CE EXPIRATION DATE:

URL

<https://momtobaby.org/youtubeFASDFamilies>

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

Advanced Practice Nurses, Certified Health Educators,
Medical Assistants, Licensed Practical/Vocational
Nurses, Physicians, Physician Assistants, Registered
Nurses, and Social Workers

PREREQUISITES:

Learners will have a basic understanding of what fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are.

FORMAT:

This activity is Web on Demand

CONTACT INFORMATION:

CDC's CE Accreditation Team has a policy for grievances that is available upon request.

Division of Birth Defects and Infant Disorders
cdcinfo@cdc.gov

ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS:



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- Register for and complete the course.
- Pass the post-assessment at **75 %**.
- Complete the evaluation.
- Visit Your Learning to access your certificates and transcript.

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Ep. 87: Understanding REMS & Medication Safety in Pregnancy: What Patients & Providers Need to Know

In the second episode of the fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) special series, we explore the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's work addressing FASD and how scientific findings are helping shape prevention efforts.

BONUS: Earn continuing education credits for listening. Scroll down to learn more.

Resources Mentioned in This Episode:

- About CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

- About Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- What CDC Is Doing: FASDs
- Online Trainings and Resources
- FASD National Partner Network Toolkit
- Video Series: Lived Experiences with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders
- “Let’s Talk” Materials Toolkit

MotherToBaby: FASD Podcast - CDC’s Work Addressing Prenatal Alcohol

and Other Substance Use and FASDs - January 16, 2025 (Podcast) -

PD4929-011625

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: This podcast series is intended to reach various audiences, including healthcare professionals, who can use the information presented to inform their practice and their interaction with clients/patients. The podcast episodes will educate participants on 1) the discovery, prevalence, and newest research on the topic of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs), 2) CDC’s work in addressing prenatal alcohol and other substance use and FASDs, and 3) the experiences of people living with FASDs.

OBJECTIVES:

After completing this course, the learner will be able to:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

- Describe the impact on people who are living with FASDs.
- [REDACTED]
- Describe how interprofessional teams can help people living with FASDs transition from pediatric to adult healthcare.

FACULTY/CREDENTIALS:

Laura Bousquet, Family Navigator/Self-Advocate,
FASD United Christina Chambers, PhD, MPH,
Distinguished Professor of Pediatrics, University of
California, San Diego [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kenneth Jones, MD, Distinguished Professor of
Pediatrics, University of California, San Diego [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Jennifer Wisdahl, Chief
Operating Officer, FASD United

CE ORIGINATION DATE:

January 16, 2025 January 16, 2027

CE EXPIRATION DATE:

URL

<https://momtobaby.org/FASDep82YouTube>

INTENDED AUDIENCE: Advanced Practice Nurses, Certified Health Educators, Medical Assistants, Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses, Physicians, Physician Assistants, Registered Nurses, and Social Workers

PREREQUISITES: Learners will have a basic understanding of what fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are.

FORMAT: This activity is Web on Demand

CONTACT INFORMATION:

CDC's CE Accreditation Team has a policy for grievances that is available upon request.

Division of Birth Defects and Infant Disorders
cdcinfo@cdc.gov

ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS:



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CEU: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is authorized by IACET to offer **0.1** CEU's for this program.

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- Register for and complete the course.
- Pass the post-assessment at **75 %**.
- Complete the evaluation.
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Ep. 87: Understanding REMS & Medication Safety in Pregnancy: What Patients & Providers Need to Know

In this episode, Dr. Kenneth Lyons Jones, one of the pioneers who first identified Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) in the United States in 1973, and Dr. Christina Chambers, a renowned epidemiologist who has conducted groundbreaking research on the prevalence of FASD, join host Chris Stallman, CGC, to discuss the discovery of FASD, its common physical and cognitive traits, and its prevalence today.

BONUS: Earn continuing education credits for listening to our entire FASD 3-part series. Scroll down to learn more.

Resources Mentioned in This Episode:

- [Dr. Kenneth Lyons Jones on the History of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome - FASD](#)
- [Prevalence of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders in 4 US Communities | Antenatal Exposures and Child Outcomes | JAMA | JAMA Network](#)
- [Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders - American Academy of Pediatrics](#)
- [Types of Treatment for FASDs | Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders | CDC](#)
- [Choline supplements in young children with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder have lasting cognitive benefits | National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism \(NIAAA\)](#)

MotherToBaby: FASD Podcast

SCPD4929

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OBJECTIVES:

After completing this course, the learner will be able to:

[REDACTED]

2. Describe the National Center of Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities' (NCBDDD) approach to addressing FASDs.
3. Describe the impact on people who are living with FASDs.

[REDACTED]

5. Describe how interprofessional teams can help people living with FASDs transition from pediatric to adult healthcare.

**FACULTY/
CREDENTIALS:**

Laura Bousquet, Family Navigator/Self-Advocate, FASD United [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Elizabeth Dang, MPH, Behavioral Scientist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Nicholas Deputy, PhD, MPH, Health Scientist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Jennifer Wisdahl, Chief Operating Officer, FASD United

**CE ORIGATION DATE: CE EXPIRATION
DATE:**

January 9, 2025 January 9, 2027

URL

<https://momtobaby.org/FASDep81youtube>

INTENDED AUDIENCE:

Advanced Practice Nurses, Certified Health Educators, Medical Assistants, Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurses, Physicians, Physician Assistants, Registered Nurses, and Social Workers

PREREQUISITES:

Learners will have a basic understanding of what fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are.

FORMAT:

This activity is Web on Demand

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Division of Birth Defects and Infant Disorders cdcinfo@cdc.gov

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Host Chris Stallman, CGC, welcomes back Maternal-Fetal Medicine Specialist and social media health educator, Dr. Shannon Clark of [@babiesafter35](https://www.instagram.com/babiesafter35).

Dr. Clark debunks myths about the risks associated with having children later in life. She also gives the audience insight into her own personal journey having children after age 35.

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