

When reporting on families and opioid dependence

LANGUAGE MATTERS



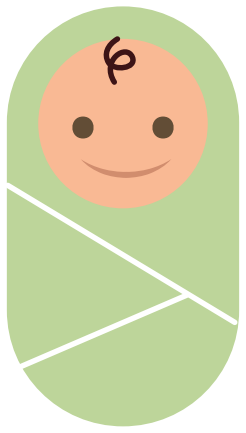
I am not an addict.

I was exposed to substances in utero. I am not addicted. Addiction is a set of behaviors associated with having a Substance Use Disorder (SUD).



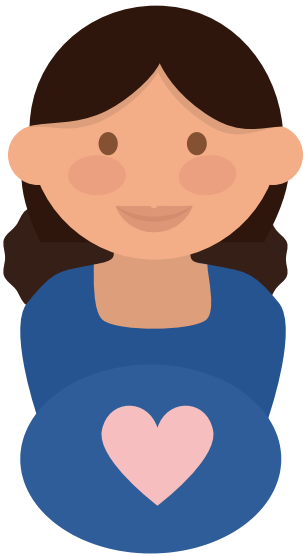
I was exposed to opioids.

While I was in the womb my parent and I shared a blood supply. I was exposed to the medications and substances they used. I may have become physiologically dependent on some of those substances.



NOW is a temporary and treatable condition.

There are evidence-based pharmacological and non-pharmacological treatments for signs of Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal.



My parent may have a SUD.

They might be receiving Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD). My NOW may be a side effect of their appropriate medical care. Do not share our medical records. This information is not evidence of child abuse or mistreatment.

My potential is limitless.

I am so much more than my diagnosis. My drug exposure will not determine my long-term outcomes. But how you treat me will. When you invest in my family's health and wellbeing by supporting Medicaid and Early Childhood Education you can expect that I will do as well as any of my peers!



Academy of Perinatal
Harm Reduction

www.perinatalharmreduction.org



www.nationalperinatal.org