



Substance Affected Infants

Department of Human Services,
Office of Children Youth and Families

Presented to: Opioid Abuse Child Impact Task Force

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April 25, 2022

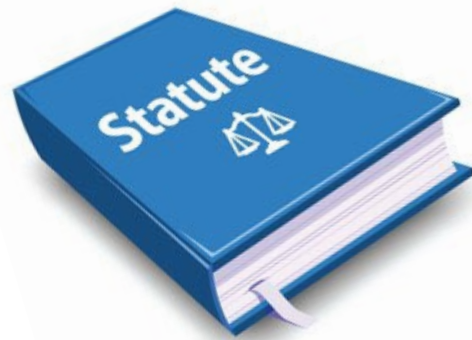
Presentation to Act 2 Task Force

Task Force is Charged with:

- 1) Identifying strategies and making short -and long - term recommendations to prioritize the prevention of substance exposed infants
- 2) Improving outcomes for pregnant and parenting women striving to recover from addiction
- 3) Promoting health, safety, and permanency for substance exposed infant and other young children at risk for abuse or neglect or out of home placement due to parental substance or alcohol use
- 4) Ensuring the Commonwealth is compliant with CAPTA related to substance exposed infants and Plans of Safe Care

Applicable Statutes:

- Federal – Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) and Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA)
- Commonwealth – Child Protective Service Law and Act 54



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Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (2016)

After 2016, the word “illegal” was removed, and family/caregivers were added to Plans of Safe Care

“Illegal-
substance
abuse”

OR

Withdrawal symptoms
resulting
from prenatal substance
exposure

OR

FASD

CARA required:

Health care providers “notify the child protective services systems”...

AND

Development of a plan of safe care for the infant and affected family member or caregiver

Effective 2016



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

CAPTA/ CARA 2016

Federal CAPTA/ CARA requires state law to include:

- The development of a plan of safe care for the infant born & identified as being affected by substance abuse or withdrawal symptoms, or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- Ensures the safety & well-being of the infant and addresses the health & substance use disorder treatment needs of the infant and family or caregivers
- The development and implementation of monitoring systems regarding the implementing of such plans

Act 54 of 2018

Act 54 amended the PA Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) to comply with the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) changes.

“Substance use”

OR

Withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal substance exposure

OR

FASD

Reworks CPSL’s Section 6386 to shift from **“mandatory reporting”** to **“notification”**

Notification is for purpose of “assessing” a child and the child’s family for a Plan of Safe Care

Requires PA DHS to collaborate with Department of Health and PA Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs on “written protocols”

Effective 2018

Act 54 of 2018

Pennsylvania Act 54 of 2018 Requires:

- A health care provider notify the Department of Human Services if they are involved in the delivery or care of a child under one year of age and the health care provider has determined the child was born affected by: substance use or withdrawal symptoms resulting from prenatal drug exposure or Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
- The development of interagency protocols for plans of safe care in collaboration with the Departments of Health and Drug & Alcohol Programs

Mission Statement:

Through a public health approach,
minimize prenatal exposure to
substances and improve infant, child
and family outcomes

MDWISE Goals

Phase 1:

- Identify infants born affected by substance use and substance use disorders through consistent policies for screening pregnant and postpartum women and their infants
- Develop Plans of Safe Care to ensure the safety and well-being of infants by addressing the health and treatment needs of infants, parents, families, and caregivers
- Develop and implement state monitoring systems to ensure local entities are making referrals and providing appropriate services to infants, parents, families, and caregivers
- Issuance of policies and procedures developed for the goals in Phase 1

MDWISE Goals

Phase 2:

- Develop a Pennsylvania policy and practice agenda supported by multiple system partners that addresses five points of intervention (Pre-pregnancy, Pre-natal, Birth, Neonatal and Early Childhood, and Adolescence) that can improve outcomes for infants, children, and families
- Integrate behavioral health, primary care, and when appropriate, evidence-based medication assisted treatment

MDWISE Accomplishments

- Defined the term “affected by”
- Developed and Issued to counties Plan of Safe Care Guidance Document
- Governor’s Institutes to assist formation of county Plan of Safe Care teams
- Technical Assistance Sessions to support county Plans of Safe Care
- Development of Plan of Safe Care Clinical Workflow

MDWISE Subcommittees

Education – Development and dissemination of discipline specific resources to support the implementation and delivery of Plans of Safe Care

Policy & Practice – Maintain, update, revise Plan of Safe Care policy documents.

Technical Assistance – Support county Plan of Safe Care teams via the delivery of monthly virtual informational and roundtable sessions

Presentations:

- Centers of Excellence
- Pennsylvania Association of Infant Mental Health

Materials in Development 2022:

- Quick Tip Sheet for Physical Health Providers
- Quick Tip Sheet for Child Welfare Providers

MDWISE – Policy & Practice Subcommittee

- Updating Plan of Safe Care Guidance document
- Developing workflow for child welfare
- Supporting the alignment of “affected by” definition

Delivery of monthly Plan of Safe Care Support Sessions for county Plan of Safe Care Providers

Plans of Safe Care



ROADMAP TO PLANS OF SAFE CARE



FEDERAL HHS

- Requirements for State
- Reporting Requirements
- CAPTA

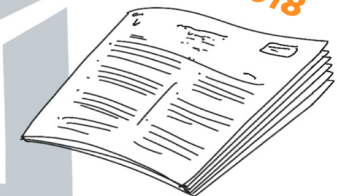
STATE DEPARTMENTS

- DOH
- DDAP
- DHS
- OMHSAS, OCYF,
- OCDEL, OMAP



OPIOID EMERGENCY DECLARATION

**CPSL AMENDED
& EFFECTIVE
AS OF 10/01/2018**



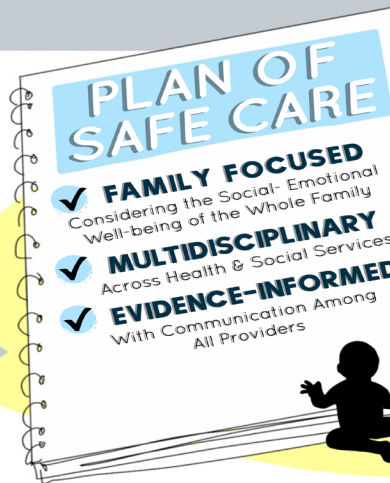
GOVERNOR'S INSTITUTE

Spring/Summer 2019



Identification and orientation of individuals attending Governor's Institute

County planning teams mirror state partnerships



PROCEDURES REFINED & IMPLEMENTED BY LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Illustrating Progress (c) 2019 for State of PA Governor's Institute on Plans of Safe Care



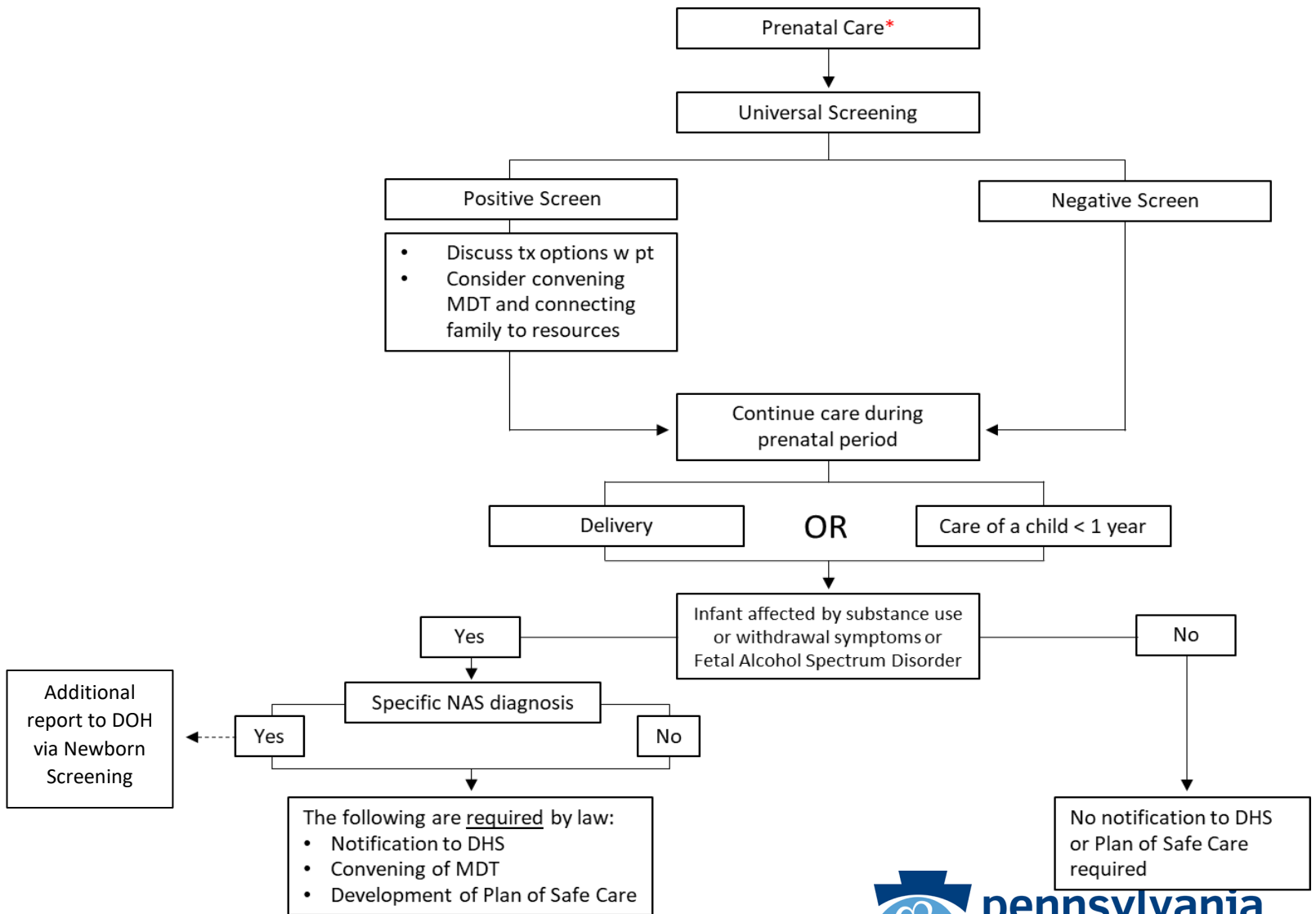
▶ Pennsylvania's Plans of Safe Care

Plans of Safe Care are for:

- Infants (up to 1 year of age) affected by substance use or withdrawal symptoms from prenatal drug exposure, or a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder **and**
- Their families and/or caregivers with substance use disorders

In Pennsylvania “Affected by” - An Infant with detectable physical, developmental, cognitive or emotional delay or harm that is associated with maternal substance use or withdrawal, as assessed by a health care provider

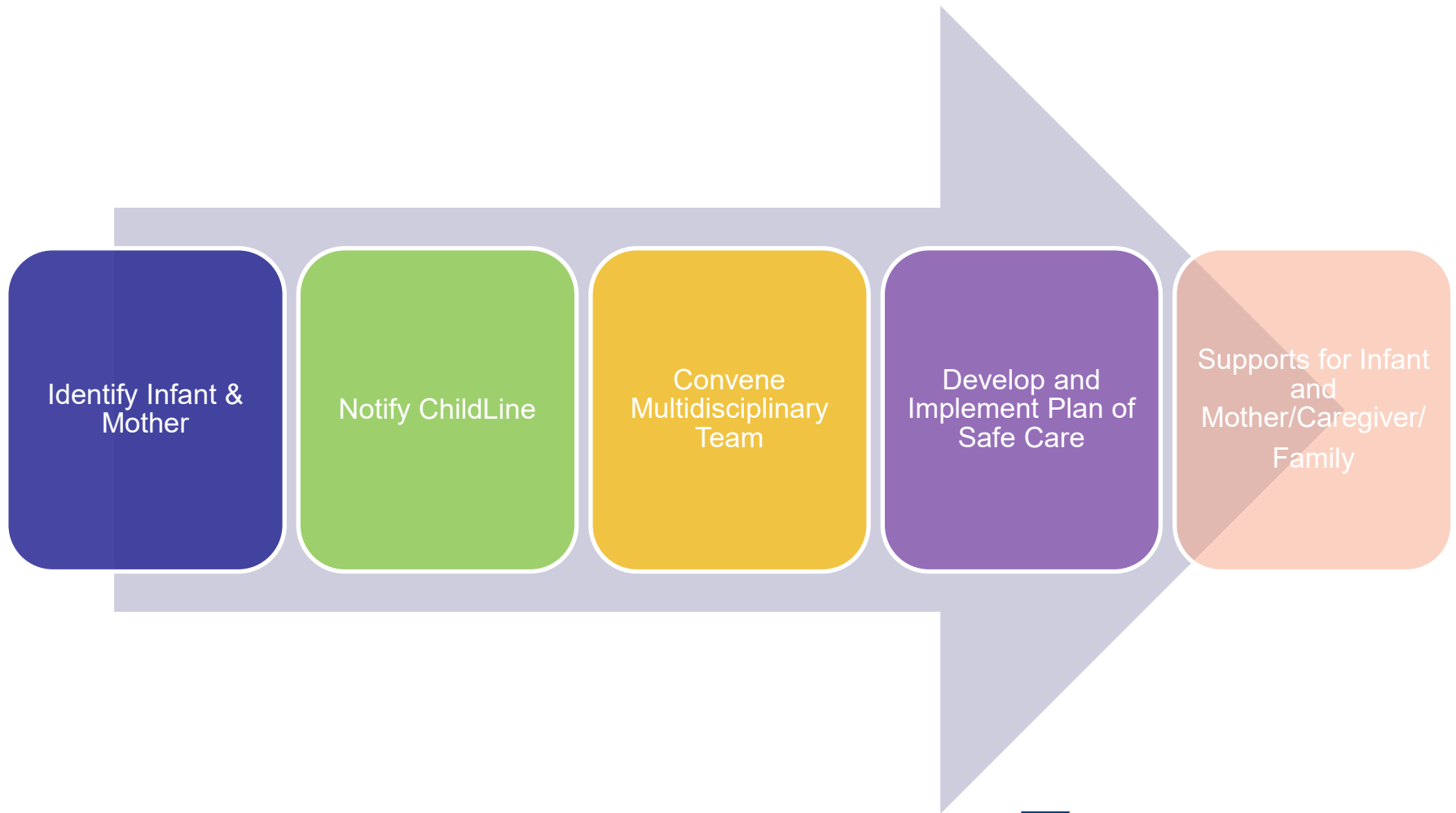
Plan of Safe Care Clinical (Physical Health) Workflow



Act 54 states

“Notification not to constitute child abuse report.—
The notification by a health care provider to the department and any transmittal to the county agency by the department shall not constitute a child abuse report.”

Steps to Developing Plan of Safe Care



Notifications by Substance Type

Alcohol	MUST be a General Protective Service (GPS)
Appropriate use of legally prescribed medication (excluding OUD/SUD Treatment)	Will be Information Only unless there are other GPS concerns which would be unrelated to the substance exposure
Illegal Substance(s)	MUST be a GPS
Medication Assisted Treatment - Substance Use Disorder or Opioid Use Disorder	Will be Information Only unless there are other GPS concerns which would be unrelated to the substance exposure
Misuse/Abuse of legal medication (prescribed or un-prescribed)	MUST be a GPS
Unknown Substance(s)	MUST be a GPS

Substance Affected Infant (SAI) Notifications 2021

- **710** total Substance Affected Infant General Protective Services referrals
- **304** total Information Only Notifications
- **587** Plans of Safe Developed (only available for General Protective Service referrals)

SAI Notifications by Type 2021

Substance Affected Infant Notifications by Type:

Medication-assisted treatment (Substance Use Disorder or Opioid Use Disorder)	535
Illegal Substances	376
Appropriate use of legally-prescribed medication (excluding SUD/ODU treatment)	156
Misuse/abuse of legal medication (prescribed or un-prescribed)	100
Unknown substance(s)	< 20
Alcohol	< 20

Plans of Safe Care

Plans of Safe Care CAPTA Grants

- 41 counties receiving grant funds
- 35 counties began on 7/1/21
- 6 counties began on 1/1/22



Plans of Safe Care Support Grants

- 2-year grant terms (state fiscal years 21-22 & 22-23)
- \$3,230,000 encumbered
- Reimbursement structure

Plans of Safe Care Grant Deliverables

- Infrastructure
- Education
- Products
- Services



Plans of Safe Care

Infrastructure - Fundamental activities needed to support the agency and system partners to effectively implement POSC



Plans of Safe Care

Education – Training on county specific policies and procedures for CCYA staff, system partners, medical providers, SAI families, and the public



Plans of Safe Care

Products - Items provided to SAI families to:

- Help meet the needs of the infant
- Support families and caregivers
- Incentivize participation in programs/ services



Plans of Safe Care

Services – Provided to infants, families and caregivers either directly or indirectly to support successful completion of the Plan of Safe Care

Next Steps:

- CAPTA funding incorporated into the County Child Welfare Agencies Needs Based Budget process
- Interdepartmental data analysis to better understand outcomes for substance affected infants and their families
- Inclusion of data collection criteria in the child welfare case management system