Caring for and treating the mother-infant dyad will serve their health needs best. Use health supervision visits to integrate check-ins and follow-ups with mothers referred to treatment.

Learn how to advance a family-centered approach focused on infant development, nutrition, and adult recovery services. Visit aap.org/opioid to access the best clinical guidance for developmental surveillance, breastfeeding, and care coordination.

Opioid use disorder (OUD) is treatable. Patient and family-centered medical homes support recovery and resilience.

- The most effective OUD recovery plans include:
  - Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) paired with behavioral and psychotherapy, and peer and community support for mothers.
  - Early intervention programs for infants.
  - Refer mothers with OUD for treatment and infants with NAS to appropriate intervention programs.
  - Learn about available treatment options and resources in your community to support your patients and their families.

Pediatricians have the unique opportunity to identify and engage mothers with OUD in seeking treatment and follow-up care as part of patient and family-centered medical home. Supporting mothers in their recovery improves health outcomes for both mothers and infants.

Pediatricians’ Role

Screen

Early identification of prenatal opioid exposure is key to sustaining the mother-infant dyad.

- Develop a standards script for infant and new patient health supervision visits to ask about prenatal substance exposure. Always use the script when talking to mothers about birth history and prenatal care.
- Incorporate questions for assessing maternal opioid use when gathering the patient health history.
- Consider that 1 in 5 infants is exposed to opioids prenatally. Implement developmental surveillance and screening practices. Cognitive and motor delays may be evident as early as 6 months.
- Use available clinical guidance to assure a healthier start for the mother-infant dyad.

Follow Up

Caring for and treating the mother-infant dyad will serve their health needs best.

- Use health-supervision visits to integrate check-ins and follow-ups with mothers referred to treatment.
- Learn how to advance a family-centered approach focused on infant development, nutrition, and adult recovery services.
- Visit aap.org/opioid to access the best clinical guidance for developmental surveillance, breastfeeding, and care coordination.

The stigma associated with OUD is a barrier to a mother’s decision to seek treatment.

- Approach mothers and pregnant women with OUD with empathy and non-judgmental attitudes and language—words matter to everyone.
- Learn about implicit bias and how to promote an empathetic and positive approach, and destigmatize language in your practice.

Address Stigma

Supportive environments, community collaborations and evidence-based treatment will help mothers and infants stay together and grow healthy.