

Thames Valley Priorities Committee Commissioning Policy Statement

Policy No TVPC 77: **The diagnosis and treatment of Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) in children, adolescents and adults.**

Recommendation made by the Priorities Committee: January 2018/ Updated March 2021¹

Date of issue: **May 2021**

Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is an umbrella term which encompasses a range of neurodevelopmental impairments, which can result in cognitive, physical and behavioural difficulties for individuals.

There are locally commissioned services within Mental Health, Learning Disability and Neurology which are able to identify and treat the difficulties associated with FASD. Due to this, national specialist assessment and treatment programmes solely for the diagnosis and treatment of FASD in children, adolescents and adults are **not normally funded**.

NOTES:

- Potentially exceptional circumstances may be considered by a patient's CCG where there is evidence of significant health status impairment (e.g. inability to perform activities of daily living) and there is evidence that the intervention sought would improve the individual's health status.
- This policy will be reviewed in the light of new evidence or new national guidance, e.g., from NICE.
- Thames Valley clinical policies can be viewed at <https://www.fundingrequests.cscsu.nhs.uk/>

¹ The 2019 Scottish Intercollegiate Guideline Network 156 guidance (Children and young people exposed prenatally to alcohol) was considered during this update; no changes to the policy were made.