Taking drugs during pregnancy can pass through the placenta and then to the baby. The placenta grows in the uterus and provides food and oxygen for your baby through the umbilical cord. The umbilical cord can also pass drugs (including prescription drugs) to the baby during pregnancy.

When drugs are used during pregnancy, babies can be diagnosed with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS). NAS is a group of problems for newborns exposed to addictive, illicit or prescription drugs while in the womb, causing them to go through withdrawal symptoms after birth. NAS is also referred to as, neonatal withdrawal syndrome (NWS) or Neonatal Opioid Withdrawal (NOW).

7/1000 newborns diagnosed with NAS
1 baby every 19 minutes diagnosed with NAS
80 newborns diagnosed everyday
# of babies diagnosed with NAS increased by 82% from 2010-2017
The cost of a hospital stay for a baby with NAS is nearly 8x greater ($1,000-$8,000)
Average length of stay for newborns with NAS was 11 days compared to 2 for other newborns

Understand that it is possible that your child still develops NAS if you take prescription drugs as prescribed by your doctor.

A Warm Welcome
Stay DRUG FREE to Ensure Your Baby has the Best Start on Life!

NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME

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SYMPTOMS
Short term (5-10 days)

- More likely to develop breathing or feeding problems and seizures
- More likely to have a longer hospital stay
- Stomach symptoms
  - Vomiting, loose stool, cramps, etc.
- Blood Vessels
  - Rapid heart rate, sweating, fever, etc.
- Brain Activity
  - Agitation, sleeplessness, tremors, high pitched crying, tense muscles, etc.
- Skin
  - Reddened fingertips, toes, knees

PREVENTION

- If pregnant, and using any drugs, talk to your doctor, nurse, or healthcare provider IMMEDIATELY
- Don't stop taking drugs WITHOUT getting treatment from your provider
- If you are not pregnant, stop using non prescribed drugs and/or misusing prescription drugs before you become pregnant

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