

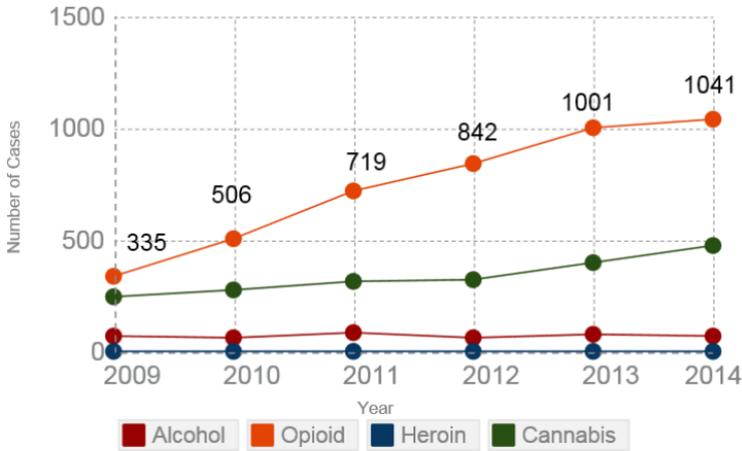
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) in Wisconsin



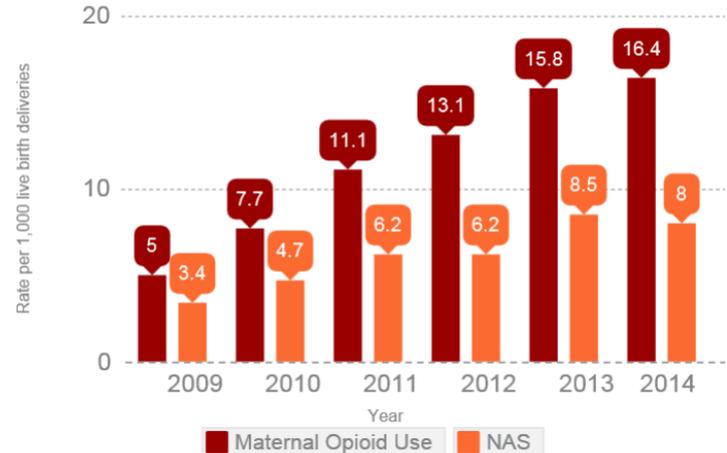
Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Division of Mental Health and
Substance Abuse Services
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Maternal Substance Use Identified During Delivery Hospital Stay in Wisconsin 2009-2014



Rate of Deliveries with Maternal Opioid Use and Rate of NAS, Wisconsin 2009-2014



About half of the women using opioids during their pregnancy also have infants affected by NAS.

In Summary

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) is a postnatal drug withdrawal syndrome caused by maternal drug use, primarily prescription opioid abuse. Many women of reproductive age taking prescription opioids may not know they are pregnant and, therefore, may be unknowingly exposing their unborn child. Women may become addicted to opioids for a number of reasons. Pregnant women seeking medication-assisted treatment (MAT) for an opioid use disorder should discuss options with their primary care physician. It is not recommended that a pregnant woman taper down or stop MAT 'cold turkey' due to possible fetal distress. The Wisconsin Association for Perinatal Care (WAPC) has more information and resources for providers and families at: <http://perinatalweb.org/major-initiatives/perinatal-substance-use-and-abuse/resources>

Fast Facts



Infants are diagnosed with NAS shortly after birth based on a history of drug exposure, lab testing, and clinical signs.



Infants with NAS may be treated with medication and/or environmentally (e.g., decrease environmental stimulation) based on the severity of the syndrome.



Nationally, between 2008 and 2012, the most commonly prescribed opioids among women were hydrocodone, codeine, and oxycodone.



In the United States, the prevalence of maternal opioid use between 1998 and 2011, increased by 127%.

Signs and Symptoms of NAS

Infants usually begin to show signs of withdrawal from opioids from 1 to 7 days after birth. Health care providers in a hospital use NAS scoring to measure the severity of the infant's withdrawal symptoms.

Central Nervous System

- Irritability, fussiness
- Increased muscle tone
- Sleep problems
- High-pitched cry
- Skin break down on knees and face
- Tremors, seizures

Gastrointestinal System

- Poor feeding, spitting up
- Skin breakdown on buttocks
- Dehydration
- Diarrhea
- Excessive sucking

Metabolic, Vasomotor, Respiratory Systems

- Nasal stuffiness, sneezing
- Frequent episodes of hiccups
- Sweating
- Frequent yawning
- Fast breathing, forgetting to breathe
- Fever