



First announcement

### Third FAS Symposium in the Netherlands

## Fetal Alcohol Syndrome: Advances in Diagnosis and Treatment

Every year in the Netherlands, hundreds of babies are prenatally exposed to alcohol. They have a high risk of retarded growth, birth defects, attachment disorders, low IQ, and later of learning and behavioral problems. If the role of the alcohol use by the mother is recognized, these children may be diagnosed with a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder and a supportive network can be set up.

The effects of prenatal alcohol exposure are little known in the Netherlands. In order to focus more attention on this problem, the Gelre Hospital system, which hosts the only FAS polyclinic in the Netherlands, and the FAS Foundation of the Netherlands are organising the third FAS Symposium in the Netherlands.

During the morning program, international and Dutch speakers will describe the physical, cognitive and socio-emotional effects of prenatal alcohol exposure and will present strategies to improve the outcome for these children. The presentations will be in English or Dutch. The afternoon program consists of a choice of workshops.

The program below is the tentative program. In January the definitive program will be available on the [website](#) where it is possible to [register on-line](#). An early-bird rate is available for professionals until January 15, 2009.

**Of interest to:** Pediatricians, general practitioners, child and youth psychiatrists, psychologists, gynecologists, clinical geneticists, social workers, drug and alcohol addiction workers, midwives, speech therapists, physical therapists, special education teachers, youth social workers, foster care and adoption workers and parents of children with FASD.

Accreditation has been requested for various professional groups in the Netherlands.

**Date:** Saturday, 28 March 2009

**Place:** Theater De Hanzehof in Zutphen, the Netherlands. (Near the train station.) [Map](#)

**Cost:** Professionals € 280 exclusive VAT  
Students € 220 exclusive VAT  
*For professionals and students, there is an early bird reduction of € 30 for registration before January 15, 2009.*

The FAS Foundation is offering a reduced rate (€ 40 per person or € 75 per couple) to parents of children with FAS. Please contact the FAS Stichting at <mailto:info@fasstichting.nl> for more information.

### Program:

Day chairperson: Dianne Wesselink, special education consultant/health services psychologist, Gelre Hospitals, Zutphen

- 09.30 Sign in, coffee and tea
- 10.00 Welcome by Maarten Imkamp, board of directors, Gelre Hospitals
- 10.05 Opening symposium  
Martha Krijgsheld, chair FAS Foundation, foster mother
- 10.15 **FASD: From Discovery to prevention** [English]  
Susan Astley, PhD, professor of Epidemiology, University of Washington
- 11.00 Pause
- 11.20 **Fetal alcohol syndrome in pediatric practice in the Netherlands** [Dutch]  
Results of the Dutch signalling study 2007 – 2008  
Hester van Wieringen, pediatrician Mesos Medical Center, Nieuwegein and Utrecht

- 11.40 **The new FAS clinic in Zutphen** [Dutch]  
The first data  
Rudi Kohl, pediatrician, Gelre hospitals, Zutphen
- 12.00 **Neuronal dysfunction in fetal alcohol syndrome: what can we learn from the cerebellum** [English]  
Laurent Servais, MD, PhD, Institut de myologie, Hôpital de la Pitié Salpêtrière, Paris
- 12.20 Lunch
- 14.00 **Personal insight into FAS** [Dutch]
- 14.15 First round workshops
- A **FASD 4-digit diagnostic code** [English]  
Susan Astley, PhD, professor of Epidemiology, University of Washington
- B **Guiding sexual development in young people with met FAS** [Dutch]  
Jan de Vries, child and youth psychologist, health services psychologist, Leeuwarden
- C **Behavioral problems and developmental risks after prenatal alcohol exposure** [Dutch]  
Inge van Balkom, child and youth psychiatrist, director youth mental health service, Lentis Jonx, Groningen
- D **The role of addiction social services, youth social services and child abuse services** [Dutch]  
*Drinking mothers: how can social services help during pregnancy?*  
Rianca den Ouden, senior prevention worker KVO, Tactus Addiction Care Center, Enschede  
*The child central; safety first*  
Paulien Harmelink, Netherlands Youth Institute, Zutphen  
*What can child abuse services do for the child with FAS?*  
Alice Schutte, physician, Advies en Meldpunt Kinder mishandeling (government office for reporting of child abuse and neglect) Gelderland
- 15.15 Pause
- 15.35 Second round workshops
- E **How to help the child with FASD develop the underlying cognitive skills he/she needs in order to be successful in school** [English]  
Elles Taddeo, Ed.D., Emory University School of Medicine, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
- F **Paramedical interventions** [Dutch]  
*Motor learning*  
Henny Peters, pediatric physiotherapist, Gelre Hospitals, Zutphen  
*How the speech therapist can help children with developmental disorders*  
Simone Duits, speech and pre-speech therapist, Gorssel and Warnsveld  
*Sensory Integration*  
Mijke Mommers, cesartherapeut, Zutphen
- G **Diagnosis of partial FAS** [English]  
Reinhold Feldmann, MD, psychologist, University Hospital of Paediatrics, Münster
- 16.35 **Panel discussion**
- 16.55 Closing  
Rudi Kohl, pediatrician, Gelre Hospitals, Zutphen
- During the symposium there will be information booths.

**For more information, inquire at [FASsymposium@gelre.nl](mailto:FASsymposium@gelre.nl) or [info@fasstichting.nl](mailto:info@fasstichting.nl).**