

Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Services

Collaborative Care Quick Reference

Developing and Implementing Plans of Safe Care

Federal and State Laws

- Federal laws require a Plan of Safe Care to be developed for substance exposed infants.
- Virginia requires that all pregnant women be screened for substance use, substance exposed infants be reported to DSS, and substance-using mothers be referred to the Community Services Board.

Any provider caring for the woman may initiate the POSC.

- All healthcare, treatment and service providers should be involved.
- Home visitors are in a good position because of their rapport with the family.
- For best results, the POSC should be developed during pregnancy.

The POSC will cover a broad range of needs and services.

- It includes the needs of the mother, infant and family.
- Look at every area of need in her life, now and after delivery.
- Each POSC will be different.

Engage the client in the POSC.

- Ask the pregnant woman what she needs.
- Inform her of the effects of substance exposure on her baby.
- Respect her opinions and decisions.

Assess and review the POSC regularly.

***A pregnant woman who is misusing opioids
needs a treatment plan immediately!***