

Panel Discussion Questions for the Health and Human Services Summit
October 29, 2010

1. What do you see as the top priority in our community regarding pregnant women who use alcohol and other drugs and their babies? (each panel member)
2. Is there any process for preventing unwanted pregnancy among women who are identified as having problems with alcohol and/or other drugs? (SMA)
 - a. What is the likelihood that a sexually active woman stabilized on methadone (in childbearing age) can become pregnant if no family planning method is being used? (Dr. Carbiener)
3. Is there any classification of drug that presents a danger to the unborn fetus or pregnant women if discontinued?
4. What is the preferred medical treatment plan for opiate addicted pregnant women? (*Dr. Mirabile, Dr. Carbiener*)
5. What should be done if a pregnant woman cannot afford methadone in accordance with the medical treatment plan? What alternative treatment would be recommended for this type of patient? (*SMA Behavioral Healthcare*)
6. What are the potential risks for babies exposed to drugs in utero?
 - a. Does the trimester make a difference? (*Doctors*)
7. If a woman is illegally taking/addicted to opiates during pregnancy, should/can it be called in to DCF? (*CPC, DCF*)
 - a. What about the Marchman Act? (*SMA Behavioral Healthcare, DCF*)
8. How do Providers coordinate with your hospital prior to the birth of a baby? (*Hospitals*)
 - a. What would be the preferred method of coordination?
9. How do you typically identify a substance involved woman (presenting for labor & delivery)? How do you identify which babies should be screened?
10. Upon identification of a "positive" baby, what is the protocol?
 - a. Is DCF called? What do they typically do?
 - b. What are the legal implications? (DCF legal)
11. What kinds of medical interventions are provided for the baby? NICU?
 - a. What about social interventions such as treatment and counseling?
 - b. What resources are available? (*Healthy Start, Children's Medical Services*)
12. Should moms on drugs such as methadone/opiates breastfeed?
 - a. Should they be "detoxed"?

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- b. How much will this cost? Who will pay for it? (SMA)
13. What are the implications regarding bonding and attachment?
- a. Are these moms at elevated risks for postpartum depression (PPD)?
 - b. What are the barriers in assisting these families?
14. Are there practices from other areas that you would like to see implemented here?
15. What are the barriers to systemic change? What can we do locally?