

**Postpartum: Recognizing and Supporting the Impact on the Parent-Child Relationship**

PART II  
October 5, 2021  
Talks on Tuesday Webinar  
Presented by  
Telisha Woodfin, MSW, CD, CEIM




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**TODAY'S  
PRESENTER**

**Telisha Woodfin, MSW, CD, CEIM**

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**Objectives**

- Review the definition of postpartum and how it applies to Early Intervention.
- Explore the needs of special population families postpartum.
- Discuss the role of an early interventionist.
- Provide strategies that support the parent/ child relationship.

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## Postpartum Substance Use

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Share what thoughts and feelings immediately come to mind in the next series of photos.

*Type in chat...*

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## How to Change Our Implicit Bias

- Acknowledge your thoughts and feelings.
- Gain an accurate, science-based understanding.
- We change our language to reduce potential for stigma and negative bias.
- Serve from a place of support and not one from judgment.

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### The Postpartum Transition (What we know or have heard)

Sleep Deprivation  
Not enough time to do all the things  
Work/ life balance  
Emotional  
It's hard  
Isolating  
Overwhelming  
Unhappy with body  
COVID worries



**Drug WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS**

Some of the most common withdrawal symptoms for narcotics include:

- Nausea or vomiting
- Increased irritability and agitation
- Aching muscles
- Itchy skin
- Fatigue
- Runny nose
- Shaky hands or extremities
- Cravings for drugs

**Drug SPECIFIC WITHDRAWALS**  
Opioids (e.g., Heroin & Prescription Drugs)

**PRIMARY FLU-LIKE SYMPTOMS**  
Symptoms can last anywhere from 24 to 48 hours

**STIMULANTS (e.g., COCAINE) FEELING DEPRESSED OR RESTLESS**  
Symptoms can last for over 8 weeks

**Sedatives & Tranquilizers (e.g., Benzodiazepines)**  
A medical emergency is required for withdrawal. Symptoms can last anywhere from 10 to 14 days

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Baby B is a 3 month old male, born on July 1, 2021, at 27 weeks gestation via vaginal delivery weighing 2 lbs. 6 oz. Post-delivery Baby B was breathing on his own within 24 hours. He was discharged home from the NICU on August 26, 2021. Nine days following discharge, Baby B was admitted to the hospital PICU due to apnea. He was placed on a ventilator for 10 days and stayed in the hospital for 3 weeks. It was later determined that the apnea was due to viral meningitis. Baby B was referred to early intervention due to prematurity, atypical feeding, and torticollis. Additionally, he has kidney damage, is at risk for vision and hearing delays.




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# THE REST OF THE STORY

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Worry	Wish	Wonder
Will he get sick again?	I wish someone would reassure me that he is going to be okay.	I wonder if they really hear the emotion behind what I share from one session to the next.
Will he develop like other children?	I wish someone would reassure me that I'm going to be okay.	I wonder if they knew my story if they'd be more compassionate.
Will he have a "normal" life?	I wish they would focus more on his strengths than his deficits.	I wonder if my son is just a job to them.

Share ways you might support this family. Type in chat...

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Baby D is an 18 month old female, born on February 15, 2020, at 36 weeks gestation via emergency C-section due to Baby D's rapid heart rate. Baby D emerged weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. Post-delivery she was in the NICU for 25 days. During that time she spent 2 ½ weeks in an incubator, under UV lights due to high bilirubin levels, and was on a CPAP machine. Baby D was discharged on March 7, 2020, with an apnea monitor. Baby D was referred to early intervention due to suspected delays in her motor skills.

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## The Rest of the Story




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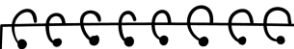
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**WHY?**  
**WHAT!?**



- Worried that providers wouldn't have empathy for my story which felt like a lifetime.
- Acknowledgement or understanding the miracle...

*Share ways we can practice empathy with parents and acknowledge/demonstrate understanding of their journey.  
Type in chat...*

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## Key Takeaways

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### Strategies that support the parent/ child relationship

- Observe and assess the parent/ child relationship
- Develop service plans that take into account the entire family
- Provide information, guidance, and support to families to further develop parenting capabilities and the parent-infant/young child relationship
- Support and reinforce parent's ability to seek appropriate care

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## Questions



Join us on November 8th for the next  
Talks on Tuesdays!



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Postpartum: Recognizing and Supporting the Impact on the Parent-Child Relationship

Part II

Deanna A. Huff

MASTP State Intervention Specialist

DATE

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Deanna A. Huff

MASTP State Intervention Specialist

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Note

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