
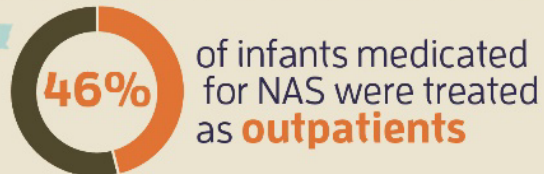


OUTPATIENT PHARMACOTHERAPY *for* Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

 Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) is a *withdrawal syndrome* in infants born to mothers who used opioids during pregnancy

Among **TN infants** covered by Medicaid born *from 2009-2011*:



The median *length of treatment* was **19 days** for inpatients & **60 days** for outpatients

Outpatient therapy was **3x longer**

36%

42%

% **inpatient & outpatient** infants with at least one emergency department visit within *six months*

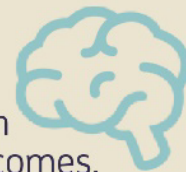


ED utilization **HIGHER** for outpatients



of outpatient infants *with NAS* were treated with **phenobarbital**

The sedative phenobarbital has been associated with *poor* neurologic outcomes.



Providers should be **cautious** when discharging NAS patients on medication



More research on management of NAS is needed

Maalouf, F.I., Cooper, W.O., Slaughter, J.C., Dudley, J., & Patrick, S.W. (2018). Outpatient Pharmacotherapy for Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome. *The Journal of Pediatrics*, 7(1). Funding: NIH National Institute on Drug Abuse Grant K23DA038720.



VANDERBILT
Center for
Child Health Policy