

Table 1. Australian diagnostic guidelines for FASD

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder		
Diagnostic criteria	Diagnostic categories	
	FASD with 3 Sentinel Features	FASD with < 3 Sentinel Features
Prenatal alcohol exposure	Confirmed or unknown	Confirmed
10 Neurodevelopmental domains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brain structure/Neurology • Motor skills • Cognition • Language • Academic achievement • Memory • Attention • Executive function, impulse control and hyperactivity • Affect regulation • Adaptive behaviour, social skills or social communication 	Severe impairment in 3+ domains	Severe impairment in 3+ domains
3 Sentinel facial features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short palpebral fissure • Smooth philtrum • Thin upper lip 	Presence of 3 sentinel facial features	Presence of 0, 1 or 2 sentinel facial features

Fetal exposure to alcohol during the first trimester affects development of facial features, particularly the eyes and mid-face. This may result in the development of sentinel facial features: facial features that are associated with a diagnosis of FASD, including short palpebral fissure, smooth philtrum and thin upper lip. The palpebral fissure refers to the horizontal length of the eye opening, which is shortened in many children living with FASD. The philtrum refers to the ridge that normally occurs between a child's mouth and their nose, which may be diminished or missing in children with FASD. The upper lip may be also be thinned or reduced in volume in children living with FASD. For more detailed information about the sentinel facial features and diagnosis of FASD, or to access training regarding the Australian Diagnostic Criteria for FASD, visit the FASD Hub: (<https://www.fasdhub.org.au/siteassets/pdfs/section-c-assessing-sentinel-facial-features--appendices-c-and-d.pdf>)