

**UW LEND Trainee – Leadership Project Proposal  
2023-2024**

**Program:** Seattle Children’s Specialized Neurodevelopmental Assessment and Consultation Service (SNACS)

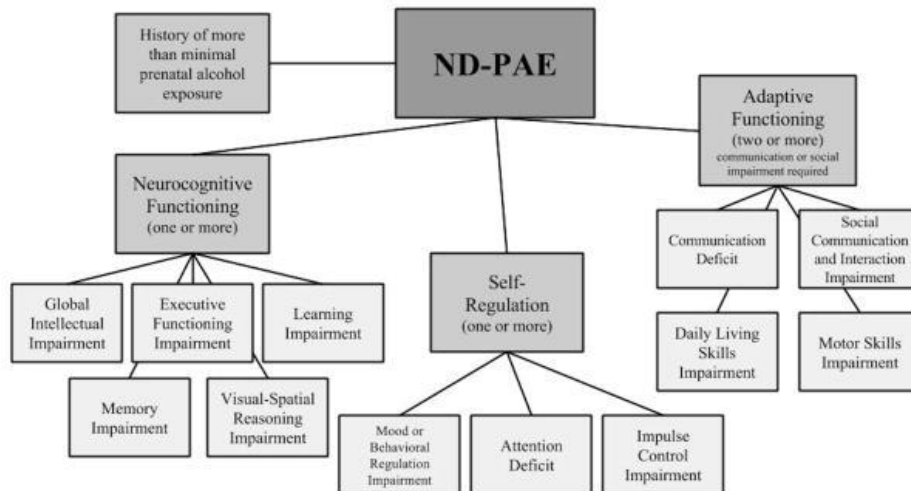
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**Project Title:** Updated Procedures for Assessing Neurobehavioral Disorder Associated with Prenatal Alcohol Exposure: Reducing bias and improving patient experience

**Describe the Need:** The field of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) desperately needs a publication that outlines a ‘gold standard’ test battery for evaluating FASDs, while taking into account racial test bias and neuro-diversity informed testing procedures. The last publication outlining testing procedures for the mental health diagnosis of FASD (called ND-PAE) was in 2015 (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4617308/>). This publication reviewed possible tests that could be used in an evaluation, but did not include data about inclusion of racially, linguistically, and neuro-diverse individuals in their normative samples.



**Brief Description of Proposed Project:**

Conduct a systematic review of literature with the following goals:

1. Describe available tests that evaluate each of the neurodevelopmental domains of ND-PAE (See figure above). Including creating tables that indicate the following for each test: general test description including age range, literature suggesting racial bias, inclusion of neuro-diverse individuals in the normative sample or suggestions for accommodated testing procedures, inclusion of individuals with FASD in normative sample, description of typical findings on the test for individuals with FASD (if available)

2. Comment on a potential 'gold standard' testing battery, and potential tests to avoid for evaluation of FASD

Possible: Include commentary from individuals with FASD on suggestions for reducing stigma, bias, and improving the FASD evaluation experience.

**Project Goal and/or Desired Outcome:**

Creation of provider and community-facing one-pager to share summarized best practices to drive practice change. The trainee will also be an author on a future publication submission regarding this work, and would have the opportunity to contribute more as interested beyond their LEND training year.

**Proposed Roles/Responsibilities of the UW LEND Trainee(s):**

1-2 trainees from LEND will join our team of 1 principal investigator and one additional graduate student to conduct this review. LEND trainees will be involved in refining search criteria, screening studies for inclusion, data extraction, and writing of results. If LEND trainees decide to include lived experience, they will also help with collaboration with FASD self-advocates who would join the project as co-authors.

**List Any Desired Trainee Prior Experiences or Skills:**

Experience conducting published or un-published literature reviews, and desire to quickly learn and apply literature review methods!

This would be a perfect project for a trainee who knows they want to have a career that includes psychological testing of diverse populations. They will be a test selection expert by the end of this project!