**From:** Christine Rogan   
**Sent:** 28 April 2017 3:08 p.m.  
**To:** Fannz <fannz@ahw.org.nz>  
**Subject:** FASD April Update

Kia ora FANNZ

It is great to bring you some of the latest FASD-related news and resources.

First on the list below (along with the attached panui) is another FASD professional development opportunity.  This workshop is timely given the latest drinking survey study for Aotearoa, showing that some of our young women are among the heavy alcohol use group  with a small percentage consuming 24 litres of absolute alcohol annually – almost 3 times the national average.  Perhaps unsurprising this was largely related to Spirit-based ready to drink products (RTDs or alco-pops).  Equally concerning is that few reported receiving any help for their drinking.

**Who in NZ may be drinking the most?**

Watch Dr Nicki Jackson, Director of Alcohol Healthwatch and Alcohol Counsellor Simone Barclay speaking about the problem and solutions on 7 Sharp <http://tvnz.co.nz/seven-sharp/new-study-reveals-which-kiwis-drinking-most-you-video-6523272> or link directly to the Wall & Casswell (2017) paper in [Alcohol: Clinical & Experimental Research Vol 41 Issue 5](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/acer.13372/full)

**FASD professional development encore**

The response to the last FASD-Informed Practice Workshop with Dr McGinn was inspiring and encouraging;  so much so that a lot of people missed out.  Not wishing people to feel let down, Alcohol Healthwatch is hosting a second workshop at no charge. Registration for the June 1st workshop closes 25th May. I strongly recommend you book well in advance to avoid disappointment.  RSVP to [christine@ahw.org.nz](mailto:christine@ahw.org.nz)   Please see the attached Panui for further details.

**Fostering Kids ‘FASD Carecast’ now available**

In February 2016, Dr Jacquie Pei and Tracy Mastrangelo toured NZ to educate families and front line professionals in functional support for children and adolescents affected by prenatal alcohol.  Taking this a step further, Fostering Kids Communication Manager and Journalist Alistair Wilkinson interviewed Jacquie, Tracy and others for an Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder [Podcast (Carecast S01E05)](https://www.omnycontent.com/w/player/?orgId=005d42cf-190b-43bd-bc41-a684000c88f3&programId=09d3b013-9895-4554-b0f0-a684000cd793&playlistId=0b302c27-1980-4bb9-9419-a68400113bdd) to help others learn more.  Fostering Kids is keen to see this [FASD Carecast](https://www.omnycontent.com/w/player/?orgId=005d42cf-190b-43bd-bc41-a684000c88f3&programId=09d3b013-9895-4554-b0f0-a684000cd793&playlistId=0b302c27-1980-4bb9-9419-a68400113bdd) shared far and wide and have given permission to download, share and (for those tech savvy amongst us) to embed into your website.

**2017 Adolescents with FASD** **Webinar**

A unique webinar that explored the manifestation of prenatal alcohol exposure in the adolescent is now available to [purchase and download](http://www.ntiupstream.com/video-downloads/2017-webinar-1). In particular the webinar discusses the neurocognitive, adaptive and regulatory functioning deficits and effective strategies that help. <http://www.ntiupstream.com/2017-webinar-registration/2017-webinar-1-adolescents-with-fasds>

**Resources from the 7th International Conference on FASD**

A number of New Zealanders travelled to Vancouver to attend the biennial International FASD Conference in Vancouver and a number participated in panel and oral presentations.

You can now find some of the powerpoint presentations and plenary videos on the conference website at:  <http://interprofessional.ubc.ca/initiatives/fasd2017/presentations/>

**Higher than expected rates of alcohol use during pregnancy in US study**

Analysis of ethanol metabolites found in the infant dried bloodspot specimen cards routinely collected at birth, revealed wider exposure to alcohol in the last month of pregnancy than previously estimated, revealing 8.4% of positive samples. This first ever study from Texas has to potential to be a simple identifier of infants who may be at increased risk of harm of FASD [(Bahkiriva et al 2017, Alcohol: Clinical and Experimental Research Vol 41 Issue 5)](http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/acer.13375/full).

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