

KIDS NOW Plus Frequently Asked Questions

Revised 10/01/2014

What is KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study?

The KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study examines pregnant women at risk for substance use and other inter-related risk factors, such as mental health problems and domestic violence, from before entering the KIDS NOW Plus program to 6 months after the birth of their baby. In addition, birth outcomes for these high risk pregnant mothers are compared to other women who gave birth during the same timeframe. The study is designed and managed by the University of Kentucky Center on Drug and Alcohol Research (UK CDAR) in collaboration with the Division of Behavioral Health.

How does KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study benefit my program?

Findings from the study show how KIDS NOW Plus case management services impact high risk pregnant women's risk factors and birth outcomes. KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study provides Kentucky specific findings to providers, the public, and to lawmakers about high risk pregnant women and birth outcomes. Many programs find the range of questions on the KIDS NOW Plus case management services intake interview to be very helpful in learning more about their clients' needs.

What is the benefit of state-specific data rather than national data?

National data is always important but many state lawmakers want to see Kentucky specific data. This data helps show how the KIDS NOW Plus case management services program benefits Kentucky.

How can I use the KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study data that is collected for each client?

The KIDS NOW Plus case management services Client Information System (CIS) provides narrative reports from data collected in the intake interview. These narrative reports summarize the answers from the intake interview in an easy-to-read format. The reports can be edited by the user to meet the specific needs of each client if necessary. Several programs say they are using the reports as a reference sheet in their client records. Some programs also use the narrative as a guideline during program planning with their clients. Others found the information on the surveys to be useful in helping clients clarify program goals.

Where can I see how the KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study data that I collect is used?

UK CDAR produces several documents using the most important findings from the annual report. These documents can be easily accessed on the website cdar.uky.edu/bhos. For example, the one-page fact sheet grabs the reader's attention with short, useful sound bites. The Findings at a Glance format provides a 4-5 page brief summary with more graphs and detail. Also, regional and site-specific reports can show how well particular programs serve clients in the community.

How is data collected from clients?

Intake information is collected from clients as they enter the KIDS NOW Plus case management services program at one of eight sites in Kentucky. Information is collected through the CIS which is an online secure system that then sends the information to UK CDAR electronically. At the end of the intake, clients have the opportunity to agree to participate in a follow-up survey by phone with UK CDAR staff approximately 6 months after the birth of the client's baby. The follow-up information is confidential and secure and clients are paid for completing the follow-up portion of the study.

What if clients do not want to participate?

Clients provide information at intake when they enter the program. However, participation in the follow-up portion of the study is voluntary. Clients who volunteer and who complete the study provide important information about the program and program effectiveness.

What if I need any help with the Client Information System (CIS)?

We are here to help you! We understand that case managers are busy and have many demands on their time. We are here to make the data collection process as smooth as possible. UK CDAR wants the CIS to be easy, educational, and beneficial in the treatment of Kentucky's KIDS NOW Plus case management services clients. If you have any suggestions to improve the intake interview or CIS or have any comments or feedback, we would love to hear them!

If you have any questions on the CIS or require technical support, please do not hesitate to contact Jeb Messer at (859) 257-1400 or jeb.messer@uky.edu. Questions pertaining to the KIDS NOW Plus case management services outcome study can be directed to Dr. TK Logan at (859) 257-8248 or tklogan@uky.edu.