

# Raja and Neil's FASD Book Club

## Service Delivery: Organisation and Models of Care



Professor Raja Mukherjee is an FASD expert. He founded the FASD Clinic in Surrey, England.



In this session, he spoke about how support for FASD needs to help with more than just a diagnosis.



We need to look at what people with FASD can do, not just at what they can't do.

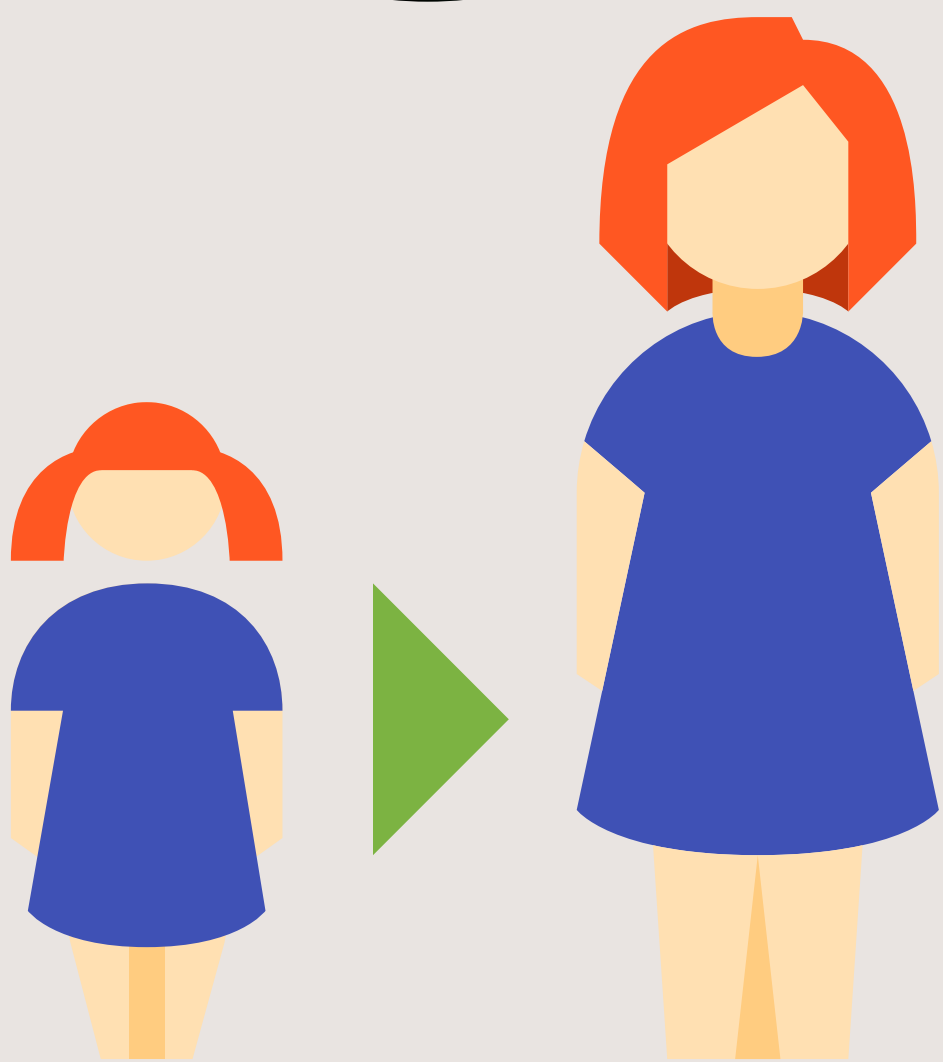


We also need to look at what a good support system might be for someone with FASD and how to build it.

# FASD support isn't just about the diagnosis



'People are adults much longer than they are children'.



FASD support needs to begin even before a diagnosis has been made, and it needs to carry on for the rest of the person's life.



Every person with FASD is unique, so the support they get needs to be based on what's best for them.

# Moving from a weakness-based model to a strength-based one



I CAN'T



The way that people with FASD are viewed at the moment focusses too heavily on what they can't do.

If we look at what people with FASD can do, we can help them reach their real potential.

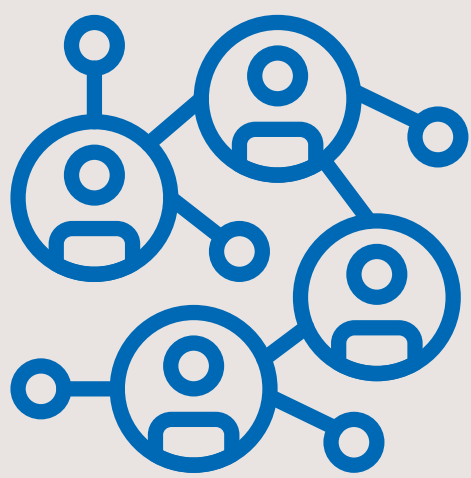


More than 400 different conditions can be linked with FASD. Not everyone with FASD will have all of these. Every person with FASD is unique. Everyone has different strengths.

# The ideal model of FASD support

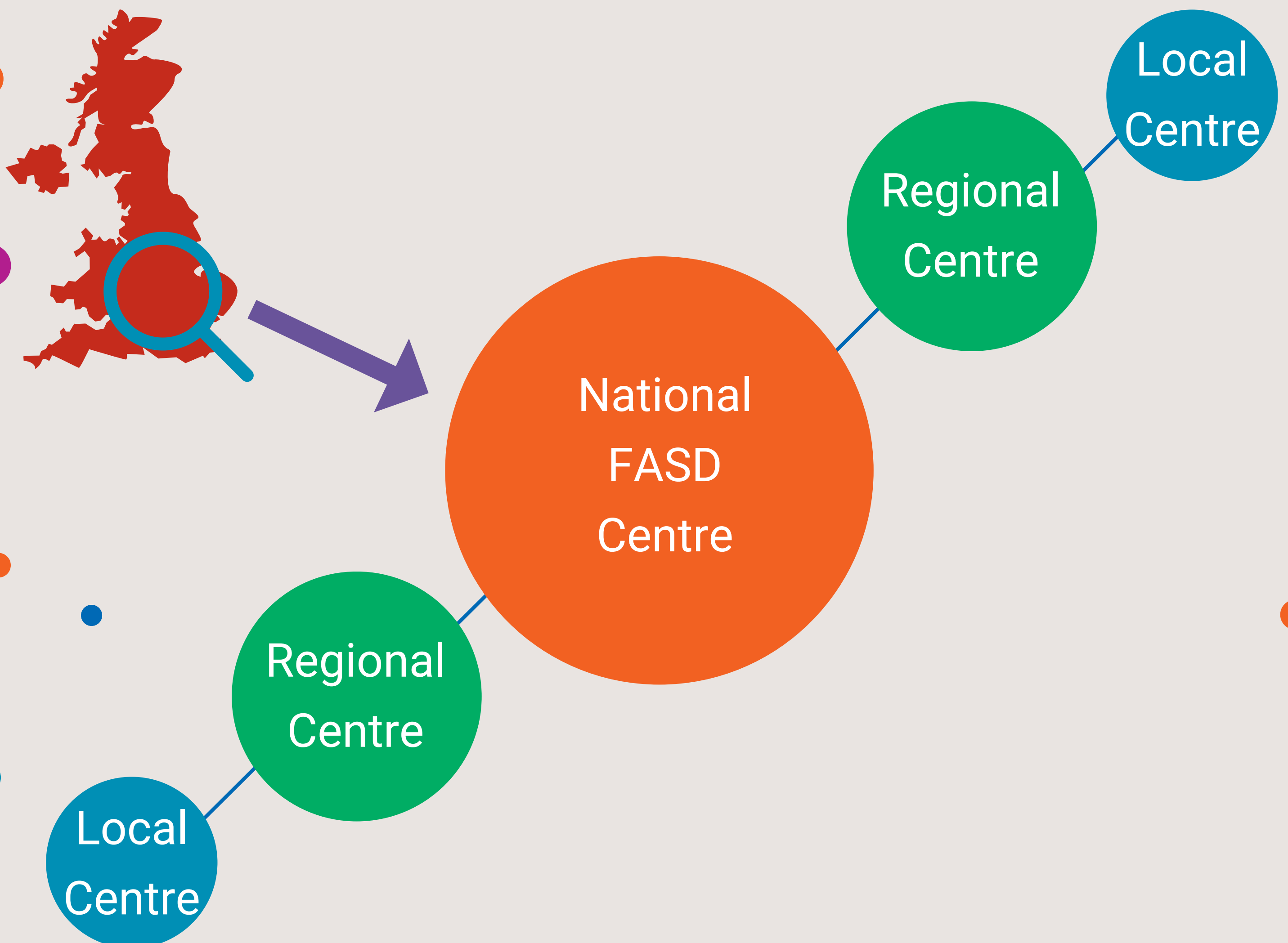


The NHS is having financial difficulty right now. Not every area will have a specialised FASD clinic.



But a network of different experts can work together in local, regional, and national centres.

It could look something like this:



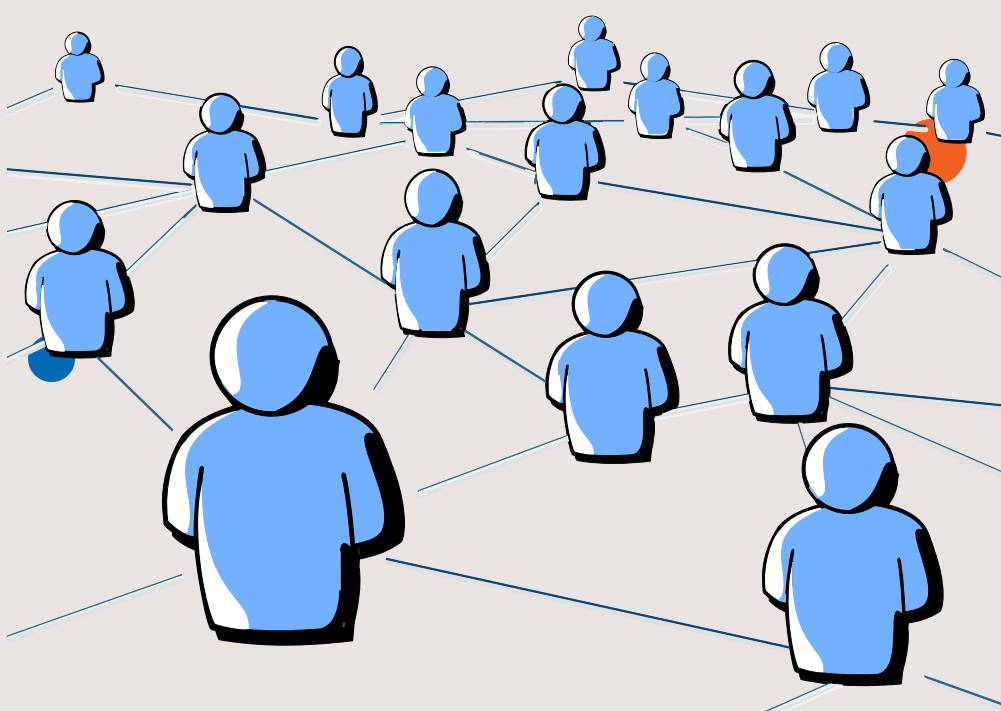
# How we could get there



FASD is complicated. Different healthcare workers are needed to form a diagnosis.



With time and training, more healthcare workers with different skills could be helped to understand FASD.



These healthcare workers with FASD knowledge could then help form the branches of local, regional, and national FASD centres.

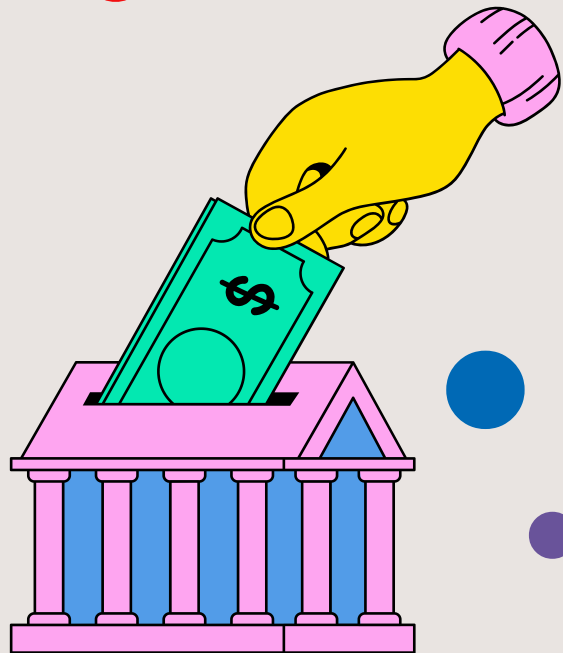
# Potential problems to overcome



Getting money to start new FASD centres is tricky because government doesn't have a lot of money right now.

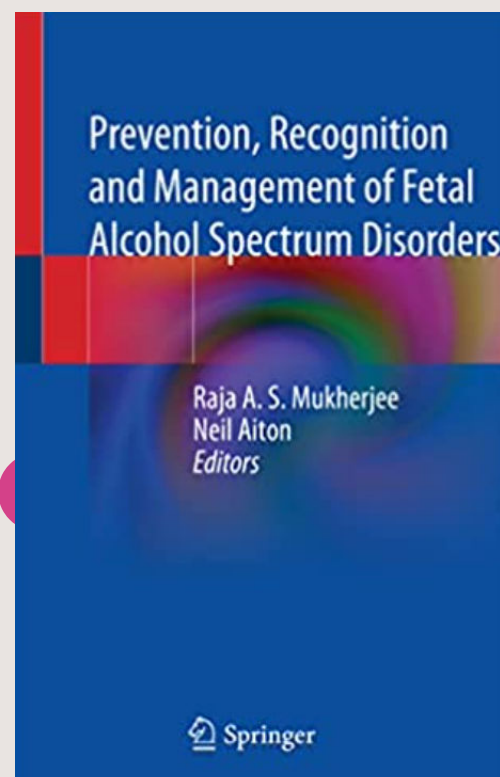


The model that Raja has suggested does help with this though, because it means that not every local area needs a full FASD team, which means that it needs less money.



Training doctors and others to do the assessments takes time, so setting up the FASD centres could take time. But change is coming. More and more are getting trained now so in the future it will be easier to get a diagnosis.

# What is Raja & Neil's FASD Bookclub?



Prof Raja Mukherjee and Dr Neil Aiton wrote a book for other doctors about FASD. But they hope more people can access the information.



In this online book club people who wrote chapters give 15- minute talks about what they wrote and then they answer questions.



After each book club, the talks are shared on National FASD's YouTube channel.



You don't have to read the book. It's expensive because it's for libraries and universities. But if you want to order it, it's here:

<https://tinyurl.com/RajaAndNeilFASDBook>