

The Unborn Child Pain Awareness and Prevention ACT of 2005

By twenty (20) weeks gestation, the unborn child has the physical structures necessary to experience pain. There is evidence that by twenty (20) weeks gestation unborn children seek to evade certain stimuli in a manner that in an infant or an adult would be interpreted to be a response to pain. Anesthesia is routinely administered to unborn children who are twenty (20) weeks gestational age or more who undergo prenatal surgery.

INTRODUCTION

The information in this booklet has been developed to give a woman basic information before making a decision about having an abortion.

It illustrates and describes, at two week intervals, how an unborn child grows during the stages of a woman's pregnancy. Also provided is information about the chances of a baby's survival when born at a given gestational age. Survival here is defined as living 28 days after birth.

Information is given about abortion methods and the medical risks and emotional reactions of abortion. Also described are the medical risks of childbirth. However, it should be emphasized that as technology and medical advances occur, the medical risks associated with abortion and childbirth are diminishing.

State health care programs that pay or help pay for medical bills for prenatal care, childbirth and neonatal care are explained in this publication. A directory of names, addresses and telephone numbers of County Assistance Offices and social service agencies is also available. The directory is broken down by county, so callers can get information and help from places located close to where they live.

By calling or visiting the agencies and offices, a woman can find out about alternatives to abortion, adoption and the kinds of assistance available to help her through pregnancy and childbirth and while she is raising her child.

Furthermore, every woman should know that:

- It is unlawful for any individual to coerce a woman to undergo an abortion.
- Any physician who performs an abortion upon a woman without obtaining her informed consent or without affording her a private medical consultation may be liable to her for damages in a civil action at law.
- The father of a child is liable to assist in the support of that child, even in instances where the father has offered to pay for an abortion.
- The law permits adoptive parents to pay costs of prenatal care, childbirth and neonatal care.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PRIOR TO BIRTH

The age of an unborn child (gestational age) is measured in two different ways. Embryologists (doctors and scientists who study the early stages of pregnancy) measure the age of a fetus from the estimated day of conception (the time when you actually become pregnant). This book refers to that measurement of gestational age as "weeks fertilization."

On the other hand, practicing doctors measure an unborn child's age from the first day of your last menstrual period which usually occurs two weeks before fertilization (conception). This book refers to that measurement as "weeks menstrual."

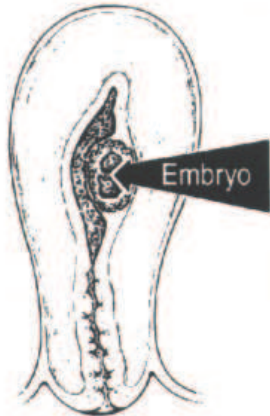
On the following pages are pictures and descriptions of how an embryo and fetus grow in a woman's body.

DESCRIPTION OF GROWTH WITH PICTURES

After fertilization, the egg divides and multiplies to form the embryo.

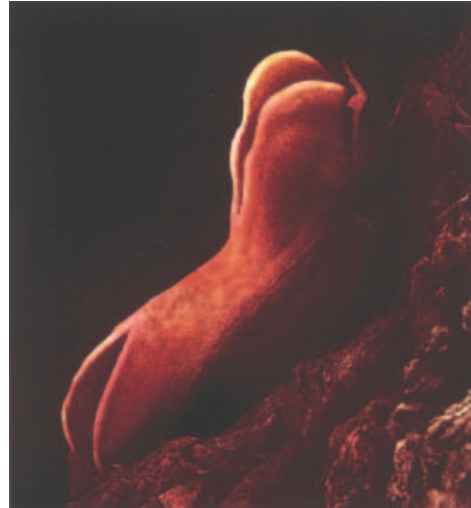
2 WEEKS FERTILIZATION 4 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

The developing embryo is about the size of a pin-head and is now inside a protective shell of special cells in the uterus wall. The cells are beginning to grow into groups that will be parts of the embryo.



3 WEEKS FERTILIZATION 5 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

The embryo and first nerve cells have formed.



4 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

The embryo is about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch long (5 millimeters). A blood vessel forms which will later develop into the heart and circulatory system. It begins to pump blood. At about the same time, a ridge of tissue forms down the length of the embryo. That tissue will later develop into the brain and spinal cord. Arm and leg buds are present.



6 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



6 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

The embryo is about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long (23 millimeters). Cells of the embryo continue to multiply and start to form the brain. At the other end is a tail bud which will become the end of the spine. Fingers and toes are starting to appear. Cells which also are multiplying in other parts of the embryo are starting to form the eyes, ears, jaws, lungs, stomach, intestines and liver.



8 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

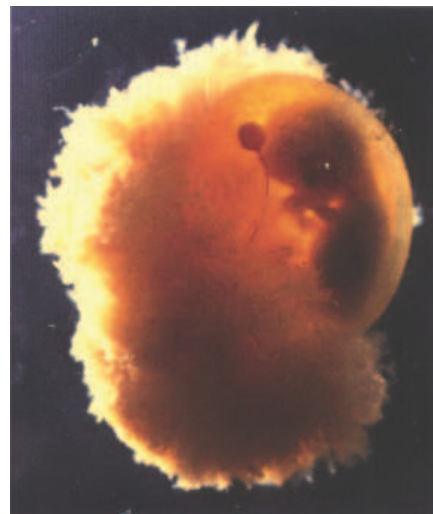


8 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

The embryo is called a fetus. The length of the fetus, measured from the top of the head to the bottom trunk (crown to rump), is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches (40 millimeters). Structures which will form the eyes, ears, arms and legs are identifiable. Muscles and skeleton are developing.



10 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



10 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

All major external body features have appeared. The fetus from crown to rump is approximately 2½ inches long (60 millimeters), and weighs roughly ½ ounce (14 grams). The muscles continue to develop. Fingers and toes are distinct and have nails.



12 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

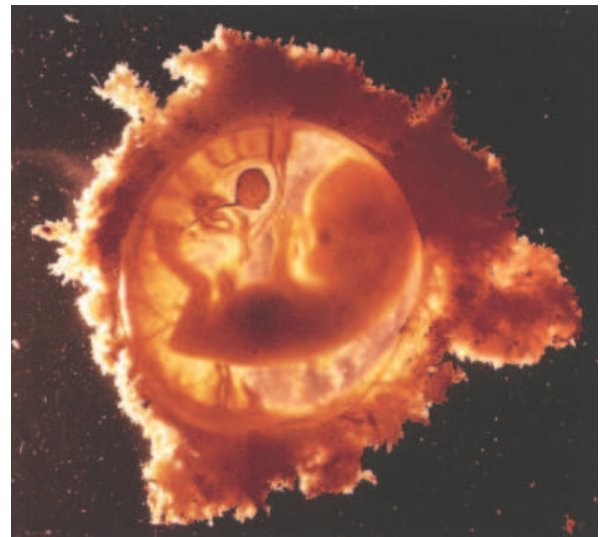


12 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

The fetus measures approximately 3½ inches long (87 millimeters), and weighs roughly 1½ ounces (45 grams). The head is still the dominant part of the fetus. The eyes are beginning to grow toward the front of the head and 20 buds are present for baby teeth. There are eyelids and the nose is developing a bridge. External genitals have been developing so that the sex can be identified.



14 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



14 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

The length of the fetus is approximately 5 inches (120 millimeters), crown to rump, and the weight is roughly 4 ounces (110 grams). Limbs are well developed. The skin appears transparent. The head is large compared to other body structures.



16 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



16 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

The fetus from crown to rump is now roughly 5½ inches long (140 millimeters). Weight is almost 8 ounces (200 grams). Skin is pink and transparent.



18 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

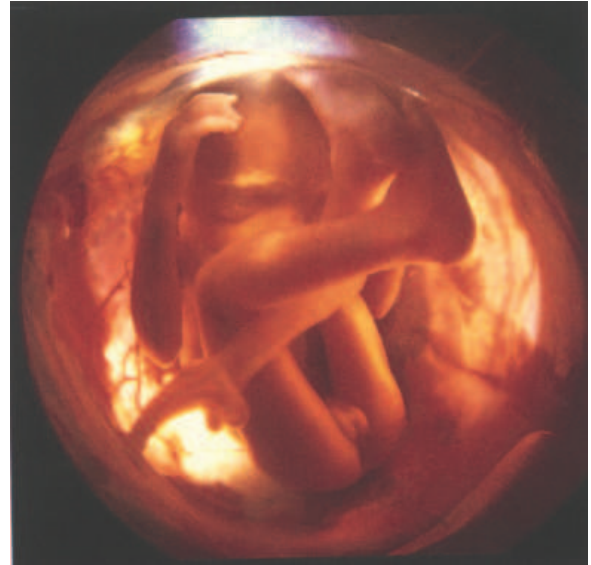


18 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 6¼ inches (160 millimeters). Weight is almost ¾ pound (320 grams). Fine, downy hair as well as scalp hair appears on the fetus. Respiratory movements occur, but the lungs have not developed enough to permit survival outside the uterus. By this time the woman can feel the fetus moving.



20 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



20 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 7½ inches (190 millimeters). Weight is about one pound (460 grams). The kidneys are starting to work and the air sacs of the lungs are starting to develop. The fetus is more active turning from side to side. Up to this time, there is very little chance that a baby would survive outside the uterus. It is estimated that 0-10% of babies born of this age, treated in the neonatal intensive care units of hospitals survived for at least 28 days or to the day when they were discharged from those intensive care units.*



22 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



22 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

24 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

Crown to rump length is about 8¼ inches (210 millimeters) and weight has increased to about 1¼ pounds (630 grams). Head and body hair are evident. The skin is wrinkled and still extremely thin. Eyebrows and eyelashes are more evident. Fat is beginning to form on the fetus and usually, evidence of the fetal skeleton can be detected. At this time, changes are occurring in lung development so that some babies at this stage may be able to survive outside the uterus, given the technology and intensive care services provided in many hospitals. Still, chances of survival are poor. It is estimated that for babies born at this time and treated in the neonatal intensive care units of hospitals, up to 66% survived for at least 28 days or to the day when they were discharged from the neonatal intensive care unit.* If the baby lives, there is a likelihood it will have long term disabilities.



24 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

26 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

Crown to rump length is about 9 inches (230 millimeters) and the average weight is two pounds (820 grams). Lungs continue to develop. Body movements are stronger. Skin is red and wrinkled and covered with fine soft hair. It is estimated that for babies born at this time and treated in the neonatal intensive care unit of hospitals, up to 82% survived for at least 28 days or to the day when they were discharged from the neonatal intensive care unit.*



*There are, however, no definite published studies on survival rates for babies born at this age.

26 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 10 inches (250 millimeters). Weight is about 2½ pounds (1,000 grams). The fetus continues to develop and grow. Eyes are partially open. According to national statistics, about 90% of babies born at 28 through 29 weeks menstrual survive.



28 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



28 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 10½ inches (270 millimeters) and weighs 1,300 grams or almost 3 pounds. Fat is accumulating and the body is more rounded. Fetus can open and close its eyes, suck its thumb and cry. National statistics show that about 96% of babies born at 30 through 31 weeks menstrual survive.



30 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



30 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 11 inches (280 millimeters). Weight is more than 3 pounds (1,700 grams). The fetus continues to develop with wrinkles appearing on the soles of the feet. About 98% of babies born at 32 through 33 weeks menstrual survive (based on national statistics).



32 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



32 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 12 inches (300 millimeters). Weight is about 4½ pounds (2,100 grams). Skin is pink and smooth. Fat continues to accumulate, and the fetus continues to gain weight steadily. About 98% of babies born at 34 through 35 weeks menstrual survive (based on national statistics).



34 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



34 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 12½ inches (320 millimeters). Weight is about 5½ pounds (2,500 grams). The unborn child is more round and plump and is almost fully developed. The face is less wrinkled. More than 99% of babies born at 36 through 37 weeks menstrual survive (based on national statistics).



36 WEEKS MENSTRUAL



36 WEEKS FERTILIZATION

Crown to rump length is about 13½ inches (340 millimeters). Weight is 6½ pounds (2,900 grams). At this time, in most cases, the unborn child is fully developed. More than 99% of babies born at 38 through 39 weeks menstrual survive (based on national statistics).



38 WEEKS MENSTRUAL

