



You Are Invited To Join A Study of Normal Brain Development in the Fetus

with the Developing Brain Research Laboratory



We would like to invite eligible pregnant women to join an important study at Children's National Health System.

What is the study about? We are studying brain development during pregnancy to understand if there are any differences between healthy unborn babies & unborn babies with heart disease. This information will allow us to identify the very earliest signs of abnormal brain development in at-risk babies, and will allow us to develop the best treatments to prevent such problems and to ensure the best possible outcome for future babies.

Do I qualify for this study? If your obstetrician determines that your pregnancy is uncomplicated, & your baby's heart tests normal, you and your baby could be eligible for this study. If you are unsure whether you qualify, you should ask your obstetrician or you can call us and we will check with your doctor.

What happens if I join the study? We will perform the following safe and painless studies:

Before your baby is born you will meet with us on two occasions at Children's National.

- We will take special "pictures" (or scans) of your baby's brain using MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)
- We will take pictures of your baby's heart using an echocardiogram
- The appointments will be scheduled between 25-39 weeks of pregnancy

After your baby is born we will meet with you and your baby on two occasions.

In the first weeks of life:

- We will take MRI pictures of your baby's brain during natural sleep
- We will do a brief physical examination of your baby
- We also will ask you questions about the medical history of you & your baby

When your baby is 18 months old we will evaluate your baby to assess her/his development.

Joining this study will NOT:

- Harm your baby in any way
- Change the way your doctors manage your pregnancy or your baby
- Expose you or your baby to any experimental medicines or procedures
- Involve needle sticks to you or your baby
- Require any blood samples taken from you or your baby
- Cost you or your insurance anything
- Expose you or your baby's identity to anyone else outside the study

How do I benefit from participation? We do not anticipate any direct benefit to you or your baby from participating in this study. Rather, any benefits would be to future babies. If we see anything unusual on the MRI, we will tell you and your doctor, with your written consent.

You will receive:

- Free parking during your visits to Children's National
- \$75 after each visit to compensate you for your time and travel expenses.
- MRI pictures of your baby

I want to enroll, what do I do next?

**If you would like to hear more about this study, contact our clinical research team:
Phone: 202-476-3765 or Email: FetalBrain@ChildrensNational.org**