

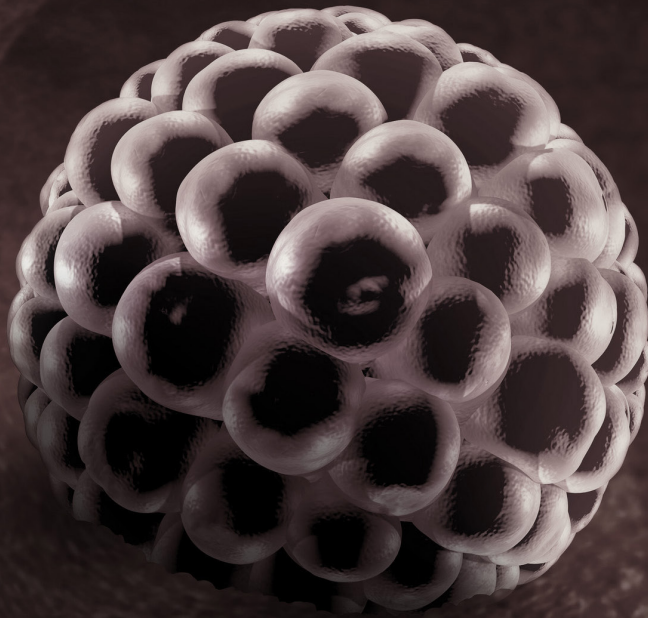


DAY 1 - CONCEPTION

At the moment of fertilization, **a unique life is created.**

It was at this instant that your entire genetic code was written, and everything ranging from your sex to your eye and skin color was determined.

Every cell that makes up who you are now came from this moment.



DAY 7 – IMPLANTATION

Growing at a remarkable rate, the embryo is now 100 cells and called a blastocyst.

She'll begin burying herself in the uterine lining and start producing HCG (Human Chorionic Gonadotropin). This hormone let's mom know she is pregnant.



DAY 21 - HEARTBEAT

At 1/25 of an inch, the baby has developed into three distinct layers. The outer layer will become the neural tube, and the next layer, the bones, and muscles. In the innermost layer, the heart and lungs are forming.

Her heart already beats at 75-80 beats per minute.

Mom is considered four weeks pregnant at this time.



WEEK 7 – ORGANS PRESENT

At this point, all her organs are present and in place, and she is known as an “embryo.” They need to develop and grow.

She now has the beginnings of her hands and feet that will eventually stretch to include arms and legs.

She will soon be able to move around!



WEEK 12 – FETAL PAIN POSSIBLE

ORGANS ARE IN PLACE

The end of the first trimester marks an important stage in pregnancy! At this point, the 2.13 inch baby has “all of his or her vital organs and body parts in place. They’ll continue to develop throughout the pregnancy.” This week, baby has finger nails, is making small movements, can make a fist, and can curl his/her toes.

A recent study, “Reconsidering Fetal Pain,” demonstrates that the pre-born may feel pain as early as 12 weeks. “Overall, the evidence, and a balanced reading of the evidence, points towards an immediate and unreflective pain experience mediated by the developing function of the nervous system as early as 12 weeks.”

<http://www.babycenter.com>
<https://jme.bmj.com/content/46/1/3>





WEEK 16 – MOVEMENT

At four months, mom may start to feel her baby, now known as a “fetus”, moving for the first time. If she goes in for an ultrasound and the baby is cooperating, she might also learn her baby’s sex.

Baby can now hear external voices and will start to dream.

She has developed reflexes and may start to suck her thumb or play with her umbilical cord.



WEEK 20 – FEELS PAIN

The baby can now feel pain and respond to stimuli. Taste buds are developing, and she can sense light. Though her body is only four and a half inches, her heart is pumping 25 quarts of blood a day. A recent study, "Reconsidering Fetal Pain," demonstrates that the pre-born may feel pain as early as 12 weeks. "Overall, the evidence, and a balanced reading of the evidence, points towards an immediate and unreflective pain experience mediated by the developing function of the nervous system as early as 12 weeks."



WEEK 22 – VIABILITY

Technically, the definition of “viability” is fluid. While the given age for viability is around 24 weeks, Amillia Sonia Taylor survived birth at just 21 weeks and six days.

At this point, a baby’s chance for survival hinges on the development of lungs.

She is beginning to make surfactant, a substance that helps her breathe outside the womb.



WEEK 40 – BIRTH

At birth, similar to in the womb, she is still very dependent on others for survival.

She maintains many habits from life in the womb, such as a preference for being swaddled up tight, lots of sleeping, and the tendency to be soothed by loud whooshing sounds like she knew in the womb.

She is now called an “infant.”