

Fetal Development

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Seminar in Medical Ethics
PL 4700



Fetal Development

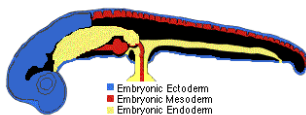
Day One: development begins on the first day of fertilization.

2 weeks: the human embryo is about 1/100 of an inch long.

<http://www.infinet.com/~life/develop/doh.htm>

Fetal Development

18 days: the *primitive streak* forms.



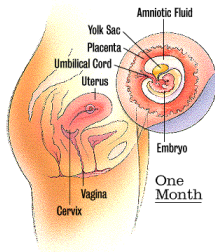
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Fetal Development

4 weeks: the embryo is about 1/6 of an inch long; the embryo has a head and trunk; structures that will become arms and legs, called limb buds, begin to appear; the heart, now in tubular form, begins to beat by the 25th day.

<http://www.infinet.com/~life/develop/doh.htm>

Fetal Development



<http://www.babvcenter.com/general/3284.html>

Fetal Development

6 weeks: the embryo is about 1/2 inch long; it now has a four-chambered heart; **electrical activity begins in the developing brain**; fingers begin to develop; the embryo has nostrils.

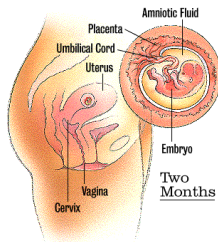
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Fetal Development

8 weeks: the embryo is about 1 1/5 inches long; begins to form arms, legs, hands, fingers, toes, and a face; the head is about half the size of the embryo; the beginnings of all key body parts are present, although they are not completely developed.

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Fetal Development



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Fetal Development

10 weeks: the fetus is about 2 1/2 inches long; the fetal heartbeat can now be detected electronically; between 8 - 10 weeks the fetus begins small, random movements.

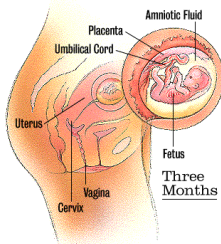
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Fetal Development

12 weeks: the fetus is about 3 ½ inches long; the fetus is able to swallow, and the kidneys are able to make urine; the doctor can often tell you if the fetus is a boy or a girl.

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Fetal Development



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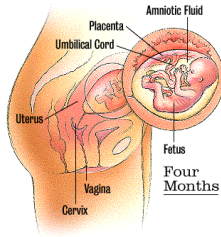
Fetal Development

14 weeks: the fetus is about 4 ¾ inches long; the head is erect; legs are developed.

16 weeks: the fetus is about 5 ½ inches long; the fetus kicks, swallows, and sleeps.

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Fetal Development



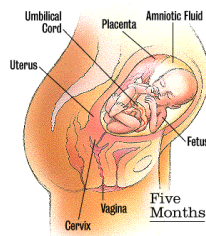
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Fetal Development

20 weeks: the fetus is about 7 ½ inches long; the fetus has fingerprints, and may have some head and body hair; although the fetus has been moving for several weeks, the movements known as “quickening” are now felt by the pregnant woman.

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Fetal Development



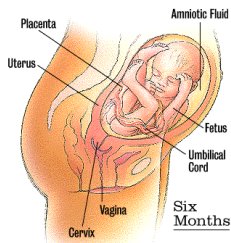
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Fetal Development

24 weeks: the fetus is about 9 inches;
the fetus can respond to sound;
about 4 out of 10 babies born
now will survive; this is the
accepted norm of **VIABILITY**.

<http://www.infinet.com/~life/develop/doh.htm>

Fetal Development



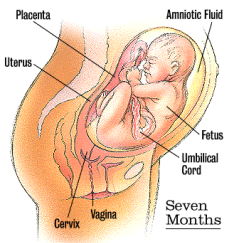
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Fetal Development

28 weeks: the fetus is about 10 ½ inches long;
the fetus has lungs that are capable
of breathing air, although some
medical assistance may be needed;
the eyes are open; about 9 out of 10
babies born now will survive.

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Fetal Development



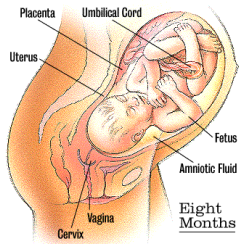
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Fetal Development

32 weeks: the fetus is about 11 ³/₄ inches long; the fetus can grasp firmly; almost all babies born now will live.

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Fetal Development



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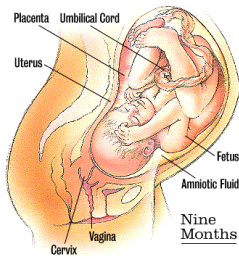
Fetal Development

36 weeks: the fetus is about 13 ½ inches long.

38 weeks: the baby may be more than 20 inches;
the baby is full term and ready to be born.

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