#### **Do Not Get Pregnant During Covid**

You will have a brain damaged baby. Children born during the coronavirus pandemic have significantly reduced verbal, motor and overall cognitive performance compared to children born before the pandemic, and this discrepancy is particularly pronounced in males, as well as in children in lower socioeconomic families, according to preliminary data presented in a preprint study. Researchers believe that this highlights that even in the absence of infection and illness, the pandemic has had a significant, negative impact on infant and child development.

In the <u>study</u>, not yet-peer reviewed and uploaded as preprint in medRxiv on Wednesday, researchers from Brown University examined data from an ongoing longitudinal study of child neurodevelopment, comparing scores in 2020 and 2021 to scores from 2011 to 2019. The researchers found that verbal, non-verbal, and overall cognitive scores are significantly lower since the beginning of the pandemic, with young infants showing significantly lower performance than infants born before January 2019.

Researchers stated that "it is clear [...] that young infants and children are developing differently than pre-pandemic, and that addressing this now while their brain is at its most plastic and responsive, is imperative," also saying that it is unclear from the data if observed declines are temporary.

Researchers concluded that results suggest that early development is impaired by the pandemic's effect on

environmental factors. Children are heavily influenced by their environment and a child's brain undergoes a large amount of structural and functional growth driven both by genetic and environmental factors, said the researchers. The COVID pandemic greatly altered the environment of both young children and pregnant individuals which could greatly influence children's development, according to the study.

Researchers cited closures and lockdowns as factors that limited child learning and typical activities, also adding that stress caused by the various factors of the pandemic affecting parents may have had an effect on children.

Researchers also cited the fear of attending prenatal visits for woman pregnant during the pandemic as a factor that increased maternal stress, anxiety, and depression, listing this as another factor that could have affected child development. Maternal stress, anxiety and depression during pregnancy can impact the brain structure and connectivity of the fetus possibly causing cognitive, motor and behavioral developmental delays.

Researchers also touched on the potential effect of maskwearing on the study, stating that children were unable to see the full facial expressions of the study's staff and that this may have impacted their understanding of test questions and instructions because of limitations posed by masks on nonverbal cues or the understanding of spoken instructions.

# <u>COVID-19 may have lasting effects on some children's brains</u>

c <a href="https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/covid-19-children-doctors-see-link-between-virus-neurological-side-n1235501">https://www.nbcnews.com/health/health-news/covid-19-children-doctors-see-link-between-virus-neurological-side-n1235501</a>

**COVID**-19 and children: Doctors see link between virus and neurological side effects Emerging research highlights a connection between **COVID**-19 and significant neurological effects in young **brains**.

# What parents need to know about how COVID impacts kids' brains

< <u>https://nypost.com/2020/12/16/what-parents-need-to-know-about-how-covid-impacts-kids-brains/</u>

Dec 16, 2020Recent research indicates that the residual neurological symptoms of long-haul **COVID** include ongoing headaches, **brain** fog, fatigue, dizziness, shortness of breath and joint and muscle pain. "Now...

# **How Does Coronavirus Affect the Brain?** | **Johns Hopkins ...**

<u>https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/health/conditions-and-diseases/coronavirus/how-does-coronavirus-affect-the-brain</u>
Patients with **COVID**-19 are experiencing an array of effects on the **brain**, ranging in severity from confusion to loss of smell and taste to life-threatening strokes. Younger patients in their 30s and 40s are suffering possibly life-changing neurological issues due to strokes.

# <u>Coronavirus can affect kids' brains and development ...</u>

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https://www.miamiherald.com/news/coronavirus/article2447518 02.html

Many kids who contract **COVID**-19 develop multisystem inflammatory syndrome (MIS-C), which can be serious and even deadly. It **affects** the heart, lungs, kidneys, skin, eyes and **brain** — the latter of...

#### <u>COVID-19 (coronavirus) in babies and</u> <u>children - Mayo Clinic</u>

c <a href="https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-">https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-</a>
conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/coronavirus-in-babies-andchildren/art-20484405

While all children are capable of getting the virus that causes **COVID**-19, they don't become sick as often as adults.Most children have mild symptoms or no symptoms. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Children's Hospital Association, in the U.S. children represent about 13% of all **COVID**-19 cases. Research suggests that children younger than ages 10 to 14 are less likely to ...

# Pandemic babies: how COVID-19 has affected child development

< <u>https://theconversation.com/pandemic-babies-how-covid-19-has-affected-child-development-155903</u>

**COVID**-19. has affected child development. March 10, 2021 7.16am EST. **Babies** born after March 11 2020 will have only known a world in the grip of a pandemic. They may never have met anyone who isn ...

# **More Proof COVID Severely Affects the Brain**

< <u>https://www.webmd.com/lung/news/20210628/more-proof-covid-affects-brain-study</u>

The changes in the **COVID**-19 **brains** showed signatures of inflammation, abnormal nerve cell communication, and chronic neurodegeneration. "Across cell types, **COVID**-19 perturbations overlap with those...

#### <u>Taking a Closer Look at COVID-19's Effects</u> on the Brain ...

< <u>https://directorsblog.nih.gov/2021/01/14/taking-a-closer-look-at-the-effects-of-covid-19-on-the-brain/</u>

While primarily a respiratory disease, **COVID**-19 can also lead to neurological problems. The first of these symptoms might be the loss of smell and taste, while some people also may later battle headaches, debilitating fatigue, and trouble thinking clearly, sometimes referred to as "**brain** fog."

# <u>What is COVID-19 brain fog — and how can</u> <u>you clear it ...</u>

<u>https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/what-is-covid-19-brain-fog-and-how-can-you-clear-it-2021030822076</u>

There are many ways that **COVID**-19 can damage the **brain**. As I described in a previous blog post, some can be devastating, such as encephalitis, strokes, and lack of oxygen to the **brain**. But other effects may be more subtle, such as the persistent impairment in sustained attention noted by Chinese researchers.

#### COVID-19 can affect the brain. New clues hint at how ...

< <a href="https://www.sciencenews.org/article/covid-brain-coronavirus-symptom-stroke-anxiety-depression">https://www.sciencenews.org/article/covid-brain-coronavirus-symptom-stroke-anxiety-depression</a>

Similar results come from a series of autopsies of **COVID**-19 patients' **brains**; 34 of 41 **brains** contained activated microglia, researchers from Columbia University Irving Medical Center and New York...