

## **The Pregnancy Environmental Hotline**

Information About  
Drugs and Medications,  
Chemicals and Other Exposures  
During Pregnancy

Toll-Free in Massachusetts  
1-800-322-5014  
or  
617-787-4957

The Pregnancy/Environmental Hotline is a service which offers the general public and healthcare providers information about possible environmental hazards during pregnancy.

Couples who are planning a pregnancy and those who are pregnant may need information concerning how medications, drugs, chemicals or other exposures can affect the developing fetus. If you have any questions, consult your doctor, or call, toll-free, The Pregnancy/Environmental Hotline.

*All calls are confidential.  
The service is free of charge.*

The Hotline is located at The National Birth Defects Center. The staff consists of health educators and physicians who specialize in genetics and birth defects.

**The Pregnancy/Environmental Hotline is sponsored by The Genesis Fund.**

### **Services Provided:**

- ▶ Confidential information by telephone on possible effects of substances or environmental agents during pregnancy.
- ▶ A written summary is mailed to the caller and her physician if requested
- ▶ Referrals to a genetic counseling center to discuss complex issues when necessary.

### **Common Questions:**

- ▶ What effect can alcohol, drugs, or cigarettes have on the fetus?
- ▶ Can chemicals at my workplace be harmful during pregnancy?
- ▶ I just discovered I am pregnant. I recently had a chest x-ray examination during a routine physical. Can this harm the developing fetus?
- ▶ Is it safe to refinish and paint the baby's room while I am expecting?
- ▶ I became pregnant while on the pill. Is that a problem?
- ▶ Can exposure to a person with the chicken pox pose a risk during pregnancy?

### **The Pregnancy/Environmental Hotline**

Phone: 800-322-5014 or 617-787-4957  
Fax: 617-787-9019

### **The National Birth Defects Center**

30 Warren Street  
Boston, MA 02135  
Monday – Friday  
9:00AM to 4:30PM

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