

Mom-to-Be's Mental State May Affect Child's Development

November 18, 2011

U.S. News & World Report:

A fetus is sensitive to, and can be affected by, the expectant mother's mental state, a new study suggests.

University of California, Irvine, researchers recruited pregnant women and tested them for depression before and after they gave birth. The women's babies were tested after birth to assess how well they were developing.

Consistency in the mother's mental state appeared to be important to a baby's well-being. Development was best in babies with mothers who were either depression-free or had depression before and after giving birth.

Read the full story: [U.S. News & World Report](#)