



So You Want To Get Pregnant?

1



Developed by Kckpers Limited in association with BabyDreamers.net

http://www.kckpers.com

http://www.BabyDreamers.net

All rights reserved.

Copyright © 2002 – 2007 by BabyDreamers.net.

http://www.BabyDreamers.net™

By purchasing BabyDreamers.net – "So You Want To Get Pregnant" you agree to the Terms and Conditions as outlined below and at the end of this document -

Kckpers Ltd retains all rights to these products.

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form, by photostat, microfilm, xerography, or any other means, or incorporated into any information retrieval system, electronic or mechanical, without the written permission of Kckpers Ltd; exceptions are made for brief excerpts used in published reviews.

This publication is designed to provide accurate and authoritative information with regard to the subject matter covered. It is sold with the understanding that the publisher is not engaged in rendering legal, accounting, or other professional advice. If legal advice or other expert assistance is required, the services of a competent professional should be sought.

Printed in New Zealand





Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	4
INTRODUCTION	19
CHAPTER 1	20
The Female Reproductive System	21
Anatomy of the female reproductive system	21
The uterine cycle	25
The follicular/proliferative phase	25
The luteal/secretory phase	25
The menstrual phase	26
The female menstrual cycle	27
Fig. 2. The Menstrual cycle.	29
Table 1. Events that occur during the menstrual cycle	30
Ovaries and egg development	34
How are the eggs produced?	34
Fig. 4. Changes in Human Germ Cell Numbers.	37
Menopause	40
Post-menopausal:	42
Grandmother hypothesis:	42
Hormone Replacement Therapy:	43
Andropause	45
How you get pregnant	47

4



The basics of conception	47
Peak fertility	55
Basal Body Temperature.	56
Cervical position.	60
Cervical secretion changes.	62
Monitoring ovulation	63
Using ultrasound to monitor ovulation	63
Blood tests	65
Ovulation predictor kits (OPKs)	66
Saliva ferning method	70
Fig. 16. Saliva ferning results:	71
The LH ovulation midstream urine test	72
Fig. 17. An ovulation midstream urine test stick.	72
CHAPTER 2	74
Preconception care of your body	76
Table 2. Checklist for Preconception Care.	79
Genetic risks	81
Table 3. Risk of having a baby with any chromosomal problem.	83
Congenital and infectious diseases	86
Environmental toxins – what to avoid	87
Table 4. Environmental toxins and associated outcomes of exposure.	88
Medical conditions and concerns	90
Lifestyle issues	91
Nutrition and exercise	91
Psychosocial factors	94



	0.6
Healthy things to do	96
Shape up while you still can!	96
What's the best body weight during pregnancy?	98
Stress	99
Tips to combat stress	101
Consider a change of lifestyle.	101
Meditate.	101
Try acupuncture.	102
The conception conundrum	103
Body Mass Index	106
How is the BMI table used?	108
Table 5. Body Mass Index (BMI) table.	110
CHAPTER 3	111
A healthy diet for a healthy pregnancy	112
How your diet can boost your fertility	113
What you should eat	115
Table 6. Required nutrition for expectant mothers.	116
What you shouldn't eat	117
Undercooked meat.	117
Raw or undercooked eggs.	117
Shellfish.	118
Pate.	118
Unpasteurized sheep or goat products.	118
Gourmet cheeses.	118
Artificial sweeteners and preservatives.	118

119

6



Vitamins needed for pregnancy	120
Medical Drugs to Avoid at Preconception and During Pregnancy	121
Over-the-counter drugs	122
Prescribed drugs and common medications	123
Analgesics.	123
Paracetamol.	124
Anti-acne tablets.	124
Antibiotics.	124
Anticoagulants/Blood-thinning agents.	125
Anticonvulsants.	125
Antidepressants.	125
Anti-hypertensive tablets.	125
Anti-migraine tablets.	126
Anti-thyroid medicines.	126
Aspirin.	126
Diuretics.	126
Insulin.	126
Lithium.	126
Cystitis medications.	127
Sleeping pills/tranquilizers.	127
CHAPTER 5	128
Exercise	129
The benefits of exercise at preconception	130
Table 7. Table of Exercises for Preconception and Pregnancy	132
The benefits of exercise during pregnancy	137
The benefits of exercise during pregnancy	138
How is exercising affected by pregnancy?	139



Ability to Exercise:	139
Guidelines to follow when exercising:	140
New exercise programs	142
Tae-bo	142
Pilates	142
Pilates	143
Pilates Movements You Can Do	145
The Saw:	145
Modified Leg Front Pull:	145
Spine Twist:	145
Side Kick:	145
Back Strength Exercise:	146
Pilates - What You Shouldn't Do	146
Qigong	148
Diastasis Recti (DR) – Prevention and Treatment	149
Diastasis Recti (DR) – Prevention and Treatment	150
Prevention:	150
During pregnancy:	150
Treatment:	151
Exercises:	152
Tai Chi	153
At preconception:	155
During pregnancy:	155
After childbirth:	155
Belly dancing	157
Fig. 22. Bellydancing during pregnancy.	159

CHAPTER 6

8

166



Health check-up	167
Rubella	169
High blood pressure	171
Cervical smear	172
Vaginal infections	172
CHAPTER 7	174
Other harmful infections	175
Listeria	175
Toxoplasmosis	177
Chicken pox	179
Fig. 26. Child with varicella disease (Chicken pox).	180
Cytomegalovirus (CMV)	181
CHAPTER 8	185
Smoking, Alcohol, and Drugs	186
Smoking	186
The 4 D's:	188
Smoking cessation	189
Alcohol	191
Drugs	195
Marijuana.	195
Coke, or cocaine.	198



Methadone and heroin.	198
Methadone and heroin.	199
Anabolic steroids.	199
Anabolic steroids.	200
Fig. 30. Various anabolic steroids and related compounds.	200
Naturopathic remedies	201
CHAPTER 9	202
General Male Health	203
Sperm	203
Semen	206
Table 8. The components and contributions of semen are as follows:	209
CHAPTER 10	210
Male Infertility	211
Things that affect sperm formation	216
Temperature	216
Why wear boxers instead of underwear?	218
Toxins and pollutions	220
Diet and sperm	222
Nutrients Needed:	224
Amino Acids.	225
Coenzyme Q10.	225
Vitamin A.	226
Vitamin B6 (pyridoxine).	226
Vitamin B12.	227



Vitamin C.	227
Vitamin E.	228
Essential fatty acids (EFAs).	228
Folate (folic acid).	229
Herbs.	229
Manganese.	230
Selenium.	230
Zinc.	231
Alcohol and sperm	232
Smoking and sperm	232
Drugs and sperm	233
Cannabis and sperm	233
Coffee and sperm	234
Diabetes and sperm	234
Chlamydia and sperm	235
Exercise and sperm	236
Exercise and sperm	237
HIV	238
Mumps	239
Abstinence and sperm	240
Low sperm count - Oligespermia	241
Factors	242
Age.	242
Testicular exposure to temperature change.	242

BabyDreamers 🍣

Substance abuse.	242
Smoking.	242
Nutrient deficiencies and malnutrition.	243
Obesity.	243
Bicycling.	243
Genetic factors.	243
Environmental factors.	244
Heavy metals.	244
Radiation treatment.	244
Varicoceles.	244
Azoospermia	246
Obstructive azoospermia:	246
Non-obstructive azoospermia:	246
Retrograde ejaculation	247
Potential treatments	248
CHAPTER 11	249
Female Infertility	250
Primary vs. Secondary Infertility	251
Primary Infertility:	251
Secondary Infertility:	251
Combined infertility	252
Unexplained infertility	253
Symptoms and Signs	253
Habitual abortion or recurrent pregnancy loss	254
Causes	254
Anatomical conditions	255



Uterine conditions:	255
Cervical conditions:	255
Chromosomal disorders	255
Aneuploidy:	256
Endocrine disorders	256
Thrombophilia	256
Immune factors	257
Antiphospholipid syndrome:	257
Increased uterine NK cells:	257
Parental HLA sharing:	257
Ovarian factors	258
Reduced ovarian reserve:	258
Luteal phase defect:	258
Lifestyle factors	259
Infection	259
Assessment	260
Diagnosis & Tests	262
Treatment	264
In vitro fertilisation	266
Possible Complications:	268
Costs	270
CHAPTER 12	271
Trying to conceive	272
How often should couples make love?	272
CHAPTER 13	273

13

BabyDreamers 藵

Sex selection of offspring	274
The Shettles Method	277
How to conceive a girl:	277
According to the frequency and timing of sexual intercourse.	278
According to the sexual position:	278
According to orgasms:	278
How to conceive a boy	279
According to the frequency and timing of sexual intercourse.	279
According to the sexual position.	279
According to orgasms.	280
Pre-implantation methods	281
Sperm sorting	281
Preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD)	281
Post-implantation methods	282
Post-birth methods	282
Infanticide	282
Adoption	282
The Chinese Calendar (Chinese Gender Chart)	283
Table 8. The Chinese Calendar/Chinese Gender Chart.	284
CHAPTER 14	286
Conception Stages	287
Stage 1: Fertilization	289
Stage 2: Implantation	289
Fetal development	290

BabyDreamers 🎎

Changes by weeks of age	291
Embryonic period	291
Week 1 (3rd week of menstrual age)	291
Week 2 (4th week of menstrual age)	292
Week 3 (5th week of menstrual age - first missed menstrual period)	292
Week 4 (6th week of menstrual age)	293
Week 5 (7th week of pregnancy)	293
Week 6 (8th week of menstrual age)	294
Week 7 (9th week of menstrual age)	294
Week 8 (10th week of menstrual age)	294
Fetal period	295
Weeks 9 to 12 (11th to 14th week of menstrual age)	295
Weeks 13 to 16 (15th to 18th week of menstrual age)	295
Week 18 (20th week of menstrual age)	296
Week 22 (24th week of menstrual age)	296
Weeks 23 to 26 (25th to 28th week of menstrual age)	297
Weeks 27 to 31 (29th to 33rd week of menstrual age)	297
Week 34 (36th week of menstrual age)	298
Fig. 33. A pregnant woman near the end of her term	298
Weeks 35 to 38 (37th to 40th week of menstrual age)	299
Timeline of a typical pregnancy	300
First trimester	301
Second trimester	302
Third trimester	303
CHAPTER 15	304
Symptoms and signs of pregnancy	305
Common Symptoms	306
Missed period	306
PMS-like manifestations	306

15



Tenderness of the breasts	306
Drowsiness	307
Nausea	307
Cravings	308
CHAPTER 16	309
Pregnancy tests	310
False-negative result	311
False-negative result	312
False-positive result	312
Examples of pregnancy test kits	313
The Aimstick [™] PBD Test Strip	313
Fig. 34. The AccuHome Midstream OTC Early Pregnancy Test	313
The AccuHome Midstream OTC Early Pregnancy Test	313
The First Response® Pregnancy Test	314
The EPT Pregnancy Test	314
Clearblue Easy Pregnancy Test	315
Table 10. A comparison	317
Other Methods	320
CHAPTER 17	321
Sexual activity during pregnancy	322
Sexual activity during the first trimester	322
Sexual activity during the first trimester	323
Sexual activity during the second trimester	325
Sexual activity during the third trimester	327



Until when is it safe to have sex?	328
The male partner's views of sex during pregnancy	329
The feeling of being left out.	329
The fear of hurting the baby inside.	329
The three's-a-crowd mentality.	329
The lack of attraction.	330
The "loads of attraction".	330
CHAPTER 18	331
Antenatal tests	332
The first exam	332
A detailed medical history	332
An external physical	333
An internal exam (IE)	333
An estimation of your delivery date	333
Risk factors qualifying a woman for prenatal testing	334
CHAPTER 19	335
Problems	336
Miscarriages	336
First-trimester bleeding	338
Cervical abrasions.	339
Implantation bleeding.	339
Placental tears.	339
Threatened miscarriage.	340
Early miscarriage (spontaneous abortion)	341
Causes of miscarriage.	343
Coping with a miscarriage.	344



Ectopic pregnancy	345
Late bleeding	346
Late bleeding	347
CHAPTER 20	348
Table of Simple Advice	349
Table 11. Table of simple advice for men and women trying to conceive	349
Sources:	351
References	352
Legal Terms and Conditions	354



Introduction

This book is written principally for couples who are trying to conceive but is also for those who have been successful at conception, but need tips on how to carry their pregnancy to full-term. There are hundreds of resources in print or on the Internet about how to get pregnant or how to increase your chances of getting pregnant, but no single book addresses the many concerns a couple has.

This also serves as a reference for those who want to stall their pregnancy for whatever reason. Here you will read about why people still get pregnant with the natural calendar methods their parents or grandparents taught them about. You will also learn why it's safer to delay a pregnancy if the present time poses dangers to the baby's health.

Men and women who are trying to find the natural ways of increasing fertility need not look far. This book will cover what you must do, what you mustn't do, the precautions you should take, plus some myths that sometimes take the joy out of pregnancy.

Pregnancy is a wonderful experience and is something that shouldn't be feared or viewed as an interruption to one's life. True, you will have to make many changes when this beautiful miracle happens, but what welcome changes they are!



19



Chapter 1

The Female Reproductive System

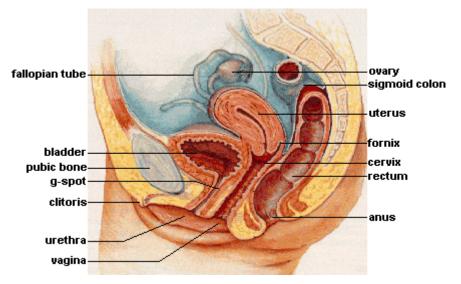


"Every baby born into the world is a finer one than the last" - Charles Dickens quotes



The Female Reproductive System

Responsible pregnancy starts with a thorough understanding of your reproductive system, as your body is the "vessel" in which your precious little gift will be carried for about nine months. In this light, a knowledge of what your body requires and the processes it undergoes immediately before and during this period is crucial as there are many factors that may affect you and your baby's health during your pregnancy.



Anatomy of the female reproductive system

Fig. 1. Human female internal reproductive anatomy. (Source: <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ovaries</u>)