We are investigating the effect of the mother's sleeping position on blood flow and oxygen delivery to the placenta and baby - especially babies who are small-for-dates or growth-restricted.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING?

1 in 340 babies born every year in New Zealand is stillborn in late pregnancy. The most common cause is suboptimal fetal growth.

Your help will work to ensure that mothers have safer pregnancies and healthier babies in the future, and improve our understanding of stillbirth.

As a token of our gratitude, you will receive MRI images of your baby to keep.

CONTACT US

To ask further questions about this study, or to receive further participant information, please contact the PrincipalInvestigators:

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UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND

Ethics Ref.:15NTB144AMO2

FLOWERPOT:
AN MRI STUDY

Fetal Growth Restriction and Placental Oxygen Transfer

You are warmly invited to take part in a study being conducted by researchers at the University of Auckland.

We are investigating the effect of the mother's sleeping position on blood flow and oxygen delivery to the placenta and baby - especially babies who are small-for-dates or growth-restricted.
WHAT WILL YOUR PARTICIPATION INVOLVE?

You will receive an information sheet and consent form. You are very welcome to ask questions or withdraw consent at any time.

We will be asking women to attend Auckland City Hospital for an MRI scan. Before the scan, we will monitor the baby's pulse. During the scan, women will be asked to lie in two different sleeping positions for a short time.

The entire visit will take approximately 1.5 hours. We will personally escort you from your car and accompany you throughout your visit.

YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IF YOU:

- are 26-38 weeks gestation
- have a singleton pregnancy
- have a baby with appropriate weight for gestational age
- OR have a small-for-dates / growth-restricted baby
- have no medical conditions (eg. Diabetes, high blood pressure)
- have a pre-pregnancy BMI of <30
- are able to lie in a MRI scanner

We would really appreciate your help!

ARE THERE ANY RISKS?

The MRI scan does not involve any radiation and extensive experience has not shown any adverse effects.

During the MRI scan, you will be closely monitored the entire time. There is no evidence of harm from our study methods to mother or baby.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS RESEARCH?

We aim to find more information about the blood flow and oxygen delivery to the placenta and developing baby when there is growth-restriction. We will investigate how these factors change depending on how the mother is positioned. This will also provide more knowledge about the effect of maternal sleep position on the baby's wellbeing.