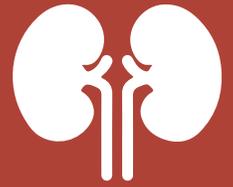


15 FACTS AT 15 WEEKS



All major organs have formed and almost all are functional.

Kidneys are filtering out toxins, the heart is pumping blood, nerves have developed, and stomach and pancreas are producing digestive enzymes.



The Supreme Court is hearing the case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, in which they will decide whether a Mississippi law limiting abortions after 15 weeks is constitutional. Doing so would be consistent with the policies of more than 90% of countries around the world.



The unborn child can bend his or her fingers and thumbs and explore the womb.



The heart pumps 26 quarts of blood per day. Comparatively, an adult's heart pumps 6,000 quarts of blood per day.

The entire body of the unborn baby responds to touch.



The heart has already beat about 15,800,000 times. The heart starts beating at only 22 days after fertilization and will beat about 54 million times between conception and birth.

Surgeons have successfully performed surgery on unborn babies at 15 weeks' gestation, treating twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome, spina bifida, congenital heart defects, and more!

Not only can the unborn baby taste the food the mother eats, but he or she has some taste preferences! If the amniotic fluid tastes sweet, he or she will swallow more amniotic fluid than if it tastes bitter.

At 15 weeks, unborn female babies have most of the eggs that they will ever produce. Future egg cells start dividing immediately until she has about 7 million eggs around 21 weeks' gestation.



The brain creates 250,000 neurons per minute.

The unborn child practices breathing to get ready for birth, when oxygen no longer comes from the placenta.



Brain connections (synapses) formed now will last into adulthood.

The fetus' skeleton can be visible through an x-ray. Most of the unborn baby's skeleton has hardened from cartilage to bone.

The fetus prefers sucking one of his or her thumbs, and it is possible to determine via ultrasound whether the child is right or left-handed.

While the eyes are still fused shut, eye movements can be easily seen in ultrasounds.

The unborn child can feel pain.



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FORT WAYNE-SOUTH BEND
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