

Vitamins in

Prenatal

Life

Vitamins are essential for the normal development of the embryo. Severe vitamin deficiencies during pregnancy, apart from their ill-effects on the mother, lead to death or malformation of the foetus. It is known from animal experiments that riboflavin is required in the later stages of bone development. Deformities which resemble human congenital malformations have also been observed following deficiencies of folic and pantothenic acids in the maternal diet. Although it is not possible to apply these results in detail to humans, adequate nutrition during pregnancy has long been considered to be of supreme importance.

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