Environmental Pollution

In industrial nations potential dangerous chemicals are released into the environment. Many babies are “born polluted” with impaired the prenatal development increasing the chances of life threatening diseases and health problems later on.

Certain pollutants cause severe prenatal damage, such as:

**Levels of mercury** – comes through seafood

**Effects:** physical deformities

Intellectual disability

Abnormal speech

Difficulty chewing and swallowing

Uncoordinated movements

**Effects of prenatal mercury exposure from maternal diet**

Cognitive processing

Attention

Motor movements

Verbal test performance

**Effects of high level of prenatal lead exposure**

Premature birth

Low birth weight

Brain damage

Wide variety of physical effects

**Effects of prenatal exposure to dioxin** (a toxic compounds resulting from commercial waste, burning of fuel, coal or oil)

Thyroid abnormalities in infancy

All above mentioned effects

Dioxin seems to impair the fertility of the ‘y’ bearing sperms prior to conception.

Exposure to traffic related fumes and smog is associated with reduced infant size, low birth weight and elevated infant death rates.

As well as impaired lungs and immune system.