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today; 1.6 Key points; 1.7 Key references; 2: Normal Growth and Development; 2.1 Introduction; 2.2 Prenatal development; 2.2.1 Embryonic period; 2.2.2 The placenta; 2.3 Embryo development; 2.4 Fetal development; 2.4.1 Normal fetal growth
2.4.2 Vulnerable periods: 'critical windows'
2.4.3 Mobilisation of maternal stores to protect the fetus; 2.4.4 Placental glucose transport; 2.5 Fetal development overview; 2.5.1 The heart; 2.5.2 Brain development; 2.5.3 The lungs; 2.5.4 Bone; 2.5.5 Muscle; 2.5.6 The liver; 2.5.7 The pancreas; 2.5.8 The kidneys; 2.5.9 Haematopoietic tissue; 2.5.10 Adipose tissue; 2.5.11 Sex hormone development; 2.5.12 Immune system development; 2.6 Birthweight; 2.7 Postnatal growth and development; 2.8 Growth monitoring (growth charts); 2.9 Secular growth trends; 2.9.1 Secular change in birthweight
2.9.2 Secular change in height
2.10 Canalisation, catch-up and catch-down growth; 2.11 Key points; 2.12 Recommendations for future research; 2.13 Key references; 3: Maternal Nutrition and Infant Feeding: Current Practice and Recommendations; 3.1 Introduction; 3.2 Characteristics of pregnant women in the UK; 3.2.1 Changing age profile of mothers; 3.2.2 Birth spacing; 3.2.3 Ethnic minority groups; 3.3 Current practice and recommendations: pre-pregnancy; 3.3.1 The importance of pre-pregnancy nutrient status and weight; 3.3.2 Recommendations for pre-pregnancy
3.3.3 Current dietary practices among women prior to pregnancy
3.4 Current practice and recommendations: during pregnancy; 3.4.1 Recommendations for pregnancy; 3.4.2 Current practice during pregnancy; 3.5 Current practice and recommendations: lactation; 3.5.1 Recommendations for lactation; 3.5.2 Current practice during lactation; 3.6 Infant feeding: issues relating to evidence base; 3.7 Current practice and recommendations: breastfeeding; 3.7.1 Benefits of breastfeeding; 3.7.2 Recommendations for breastfeeding: historical perspective and evidence base; 3.7.3 Breastfeeding: current practice
3.8 Current practice and recommendations: formula feeding

Sommario/riassunto

This Task Force report reviews the evidence that the seeds of many adult diseases are sown in utero and in infancy. The report, written by experts in the field, summarises current knowledge in this area. It illustrates how early life nutrition can bring about changes in organ development and function, thus programming risk of disease in adult life. It also considers what might be done in early life to reduce the burden of future ill health. Nutrition and Development: Short- and Long-Term Consequences for Health includes chapters on the history of this topic area, normal growth
