

To view this email as a web page, [click here](#)

Dear Supporter:

It's April, and here's your monthly brief.



# Monthly Research Brief

## News

Yesterday, we announced the winners of the March of Dimes Basil O'Connor Starter Scholar Research Awards: Dr. Elizabeth Ann L. Enninga and Dr. Mara Murray Horwitz. An Assistant Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Immunology, at Minnesota's Mayo Clinic, Dr. Enninga will study the role of cell free (cf) fetal DNA as a trigger of birth onset. Dr. Murray Horwitz, a primary care physician at Boston Medical Center and an assistant professor and health services researcher at the Boston University School of Medicine, will study barriers to postpartum heart health for women with previous hypertensive disorders of pregnancy (HDP). [Read the press release on our award winners.](#)

## Grants and awards

It's application season at March of Dimes.

Earlier this month, we opened the nomination period for the 2025 Agnes Higgins Award in Maternal-Fetal Nutrition. The deadline to apply is August 9. [Learn more about the award and download the nomination forms.](#)

We also opened the request for applications (RFA) for the Basil O'Connor Starter Scholar Research Awards in February. It closes May 31. [Learn more about the RFA in the application portal.](#)

On May 13 we will open the call for nominations for the March of Dimes Richard B. Johnston, Jr., MD Prize, our largest award. It closes September 13. [Learn more about the Prize and how to apply.](#)

## Blog

After her baby's incredible recovery following a preterm birth at 24 weeks and 2 days, Lea Shaver's on a mission to help others who could go through what her family did. In addition to advocating and volunteering with March of Dimes, she raises awareness about the scientific research at the organization—if only by her sheer passion. [Read the Shaver Family's incredible story.](#)

## Podcast

Our 10th MODCAST episode is a little different from previous shows, yet just as fascinating. We sat down with Dr. Jonas Miller, a former Stanford Prematurity Research Center (PRC) collaborator and current Psychological Sciences Assistant Professor at the University of Connecticut, to discuss his findings that a mom's stress before pregnancy affects her child's brain function and makes impulse control a little harder. [Listen to our latest episode.](#)

## Publications

[The impact of ovarian stimulation on the human endometrial microenvironment.](#)

That's it for April. See you in May.

Dr. Emre Seli  
Chief Scientific Advisor  
March of Dimes

**HEALTHY  
MOMS.  
STRONG  
BABIES.**



**Donate now**



March of Dimes

1550 Crystal Dr., Ste. 1300

Arlington, VA 22202

© 2024 March of Dimes, a not-for-profit, section 501c(3)

All Rights Reserved

[Terms Privacy & Notices](#)

[Manage Your Preferences](#) or [Unsubscribe](#)