

Dear Supporter,

It's August, the last full month of summer. Here's your brief.



Monthly Research Brief

News

It's Prematurity Research Center (PRC) site visit season! Our team has wrapped visits to our [Stanford University](#), [University of California, San Francisco](#), and [Ohio Collaborative](#) PRCs to discuss research progress, collaboration, and a sharper focus on translational work for the future. Next, we'll visit our University of Pennsylvania and Imperial College London PRCs. In November, March of Dimes will host a PRC symposium at our headquarters in Virginia for all five research centers. [Learn more about our PRCs.](#)

Grants and awards

There are several weeks left in the submission process for two of our biggest grants and awards.

On September 6, we close the application portal for the 2025 Discovery Research Grants. [Apply now.](#)

Just a week later, on September 13, the nomination portal closes for the March of Dimes Richard B. Johnston, Jr., MD Prize. [Nominate a relentless lifelong scientist here.](#)

Blog

This month's blog zeroes in on a recent Stanford University PRC paper on the links between maternal inflammation and temperament in offspring. The study reveals that inflammation (often caused by stress) can affect fetal brain processes that can contribute to difficult temperament in children aged three to five years. [Read the blog.](#)

Podcast

Want to know the type of work we value and fund as part of our Basil O'Connor Starter Scholar Research Awards? Listen to this year's winners, Dr. Mara Murray Horwitz and Dr. Elizabeth Enninga, discuss their projects on postpartum heart health and cell free (cf) fetal DNA as labor trigger on our latest MODCAST. [Tune in now.](#)

Publications

[Association between miRNAs in serum at 10-14 gestational weeks and spontaneous preterm delivery](#)

[Whole cervix imaging of collagen, muscle, and cellularity in term and preterm pregnancy](#)

[Co-regulation, relationship quality, and infant distress vocalizations observed during mother-infant interactions: Influences of maternal depression and different contexts](#)

[Individual-Level and Community-Level Predictors of Healthy Pregnancy Outcomes in Multigravid Black Women](#)

That's it for August. See you in the fall.

Dr. Emre Seli
Chief Scientific Advisor
March of Dimes

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MOMS.
STRONG
BABIES.**



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