
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

News Review

New blood test can save pregnant women's lives



The story

Scientists in Britain say a simple blood test could greatly improve the speed and accuracy of pre-eclampsia diagnoses. The relatively common condition, which affects pregnant women, can prove fatal if left untreated. 100 women around the world die of the condition every day. Researchers at King's College London say a new blood test that measures the concentration of a protein is more reliable than the traditional methods of using blood pressure and urine samples.

Vocabulary

imprecise

not accurate or exact

- The directions were imprecise, so we got lost.
- How can I bake with such an imprecise recipe!? How much flour is 'some'?

-to-be

happening or becoming in the future

- The parents-to-be have decided on a home birth.
- After the election result, minister-to-be Jameson said he was ecstatic.

roll out

make (a new service or product) widely available

- The company is set to roll out its latest model of car just before Christmas.
- The new tax system will be rolled out across the country next month.

Language challenge

Complete this sentence: Be careful. One bite from this snake can ____ fatal.

- a) make
- b) cause
- c) prove

Answer

c) prove