

# TERATOGENS

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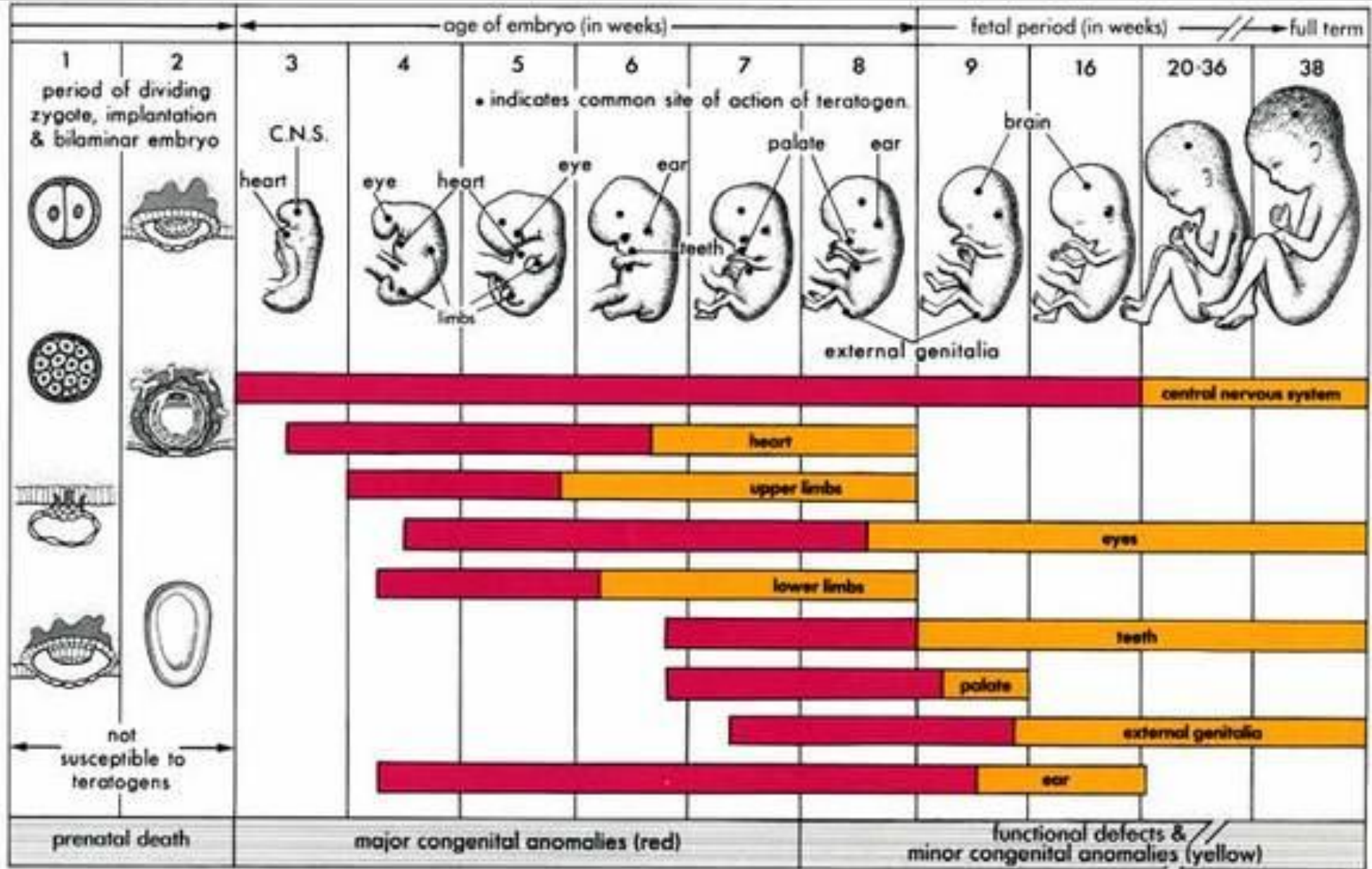
# Definition

- A Teratogen is defined as any harmful substance that can cause physical or functional abnormalities to a developing embryo or fetus

# Etiology

## EXAMPLES OF TERATOGENS





How does this affect the patient dentally?

# Tetracycline



# Tetracycline

- An antibiotic that was created to fight off bacterial infections
- If taken by the mother during the 2nd half of pregnancy, it can cause permanent discoloration of the child's secondary teeth
- It binds to calcium ions of the embryo and stains the inside of the teeth
- Very little can be done to lighten the stains

# Cleft Lip & Cleft Palate



Cleft palate



Cleft lip and cleft palate





# Cleft Lip & Cleft Palate

- A birth defect that causes oral tissue to not close properly
- It can occur from:
  - Smoking, drinking, taking certain kinds of medication
- It can affect eating, speaking, hearing, and the alignment of the teeth
- Thankfully, oral surgery is very effective in returning normal function and appearance to the mouth

# The Role of the Dental Team

- We as future dental hygienists can help our patients, who are expecting, by thoroughly knowing what medication and local anesthetics are safe to use.
- Bupivacaine & Mepivacaine both can cause Fetal Bradycardia which increases the chance of miscarriage. It must be used with caution.

Thank You!

