Pregnancy is not just a time for growing all the parts of the body. It is also a time of preparation for survival after birth. Starting more than 30 days before birth, all body systems appear and begin to function. The main divisions of the body, such as the head, chest, abdomen, pelvis, arms and legs contain the original copy of a new individual's complete genetic code. Gender, eye color and other traits are determined at fertilization. By five weeks, development of the brain, the spinal cord and the heart is well underway. The heart begins beating at five weeks and one day, and all body systems appear and begin to function. The main divisions of the body, such as the head, chest, abdomen, pelvis, arms and legs contain the original copy of a new individual's complete genetic code. Gender, eye color and other traits are determined at fertilization.

The face, palms of the hands and soles of the feet are sensitive to light touch. The unborn child begins thumb-sucking and swallowing by six weeks. By nine weeks, the hands move, the neck turns and hiccups begin. Girls also now have ovaries and boys have testes. The unborn child's auditory system is formed, and a strong response to pain is present. At 10 weeks, intermittent breathing motions begin, and the kidneys begin to produce and release urine. All the fingers and toes are free and move. The gut is fully functioning at 10 weeks. By 11 weeks, the head moves forward and back, the jaw actively opens and closes and the unborn child periodically sighs and stretches. The heart rate is 120 to 170 beats per minute. By 12 weeks, fingerprints start forming, while fingernails and toenails begin to grow. The bones are hardening in many locations. The face, palms of the hands and soles of the feet are sensitive to light touch. The unborn child begins thumb-sucking and swallowing by six weeks. By nine weeks, the hands move, the neck turns and hiccups begin. Girls also now have ovaries and boys have testes. The unborn child's auditory system is formed, and a strong response to pain is present. At 10 weeks, intermittent breathing motions begin, and the kidneys begin to produce and release urine. All the fingers and toes are free and move. The gut is fully functioning at 10 weeks. By 11 weeks, the head moves forward and back, the jaw actively opens and closes and the unborn child periodically sighs and stretches. The heart rate is 120 to 170 beats per minute. By 12 weeks, fingerprints start forming, while fingernails and toenails begin to grow. The bones are hardening in many locations. The face, palms of the hands and soles of the feet are sensitive to light touch. The unborn child begins thumb-sucking and swallowing by six weeks. By nine weeks, the hands move, the neck turns and hiccups begin. Girls also now have ovaries and boys have testes. The unborn child's auditory system is formed, and a strong response to pain is present. At 10 weeks, intermittent breathing motions begin, and the kidneys begin to produce and release urine. All the fingers and toes are free and move. The gut is fully functioning at 10 weeks. By 11 weeks, the head moves forward and back, the jaw actively opens and closes and the unborn child periodically sighs and stretches. The heart rate is 120 to 170 beats per minute. By 12 weeks, fingerprints start forming, while fingernails and toenails begin to grow. The bones are hardening in many locations. The face, palms of the hands and soles of the feet are sensitive to light touch. The unborn child begins thumb-sucking and swallowing by six weeks. By nine weeks, the hands move, the neck turns and hiccups begin. Girls also now have ovaries and boys have testes. The unborn child's auditory system is formed, and a strong response to pain is present. At 10 weeks, intermittent breathing motions begin, and the kidneys begin to produce and release urine. All the fingers and toes are free and move. The gut is fully functioning at 10 weeks. By 11 weeks, the head moves forward and back, the jaw actively opens and closes and the unborn child periodically sighs and stretches. The heart rate is 120 to 170 beats per minute. By 12 weeks, fingerprints start forming, while fingernails and toenails begin to grow. The bones are hardening in many locations. The face, palms of the hands and soles of the feet are sensitive to light touch.
At 16 weeks, a pregnant woman may begin to feel the unborn child move. The unborn child also begins making several digestive enzymes. Around 17 weeks, blood cell formation moves to its permanent location inside the bone marrow, and the unborn child begins storing energy in the form of body fat.

By 18 weeks, the formation of the breathing passages, called the bronchial tree, is complete. The unborn child will release stress hormones in response to being poked with a needle. By 19 weeks, the unborn child's heart has beaten more than 20 million times.

By 20 weeks, nearly all organs and structures of the unborn child have been formed. The larynx, or voice box, moves in a way similar to movement seen during crying after birth. The skin has developed sweat glands and is covered by a greasy white substance called vernix, which protects the skin from the long exposure to amniotic fluid. At 21 weeks, breathing patterns, body movements and the heart rate begin to follow daily cycles called circadian rhythms.

By 22 weeks, the cochlea, the organ of hearing, reaches adult size, and the unborn child begins hearing and responding to various sounds. All the skin layers and structures are now complete. The unborn child reacts to stimuli that would be recognized as painful if applied to an adult human. By 23 weeks, some infants can live outside the womb with specialized medical care, and survival rates have been reported as high as 40% in some medical centers. Between 20 and 23 weeks, rapid eye movements begin, which are similar to the REM sleep pattern seen when children and adults have dreams.

By 24 weeks, more than 30 million heartbeats have occurred. Survival rates for infants born at 24 weeks have been reported as high as 81%.

By 25 weeks, breathing motions may occur up to 44 times per minute.

By 26 weeks, sudden loud noises trigger a blink-startle response in the unborn child and may increase body movement, the heart rate and swallowing. The lungs begin to produce a substance necessary for breathing after birth. The survival rate of infants born at 26 weeks has been reported as high as 95%.

By 28 weeks, the sense of smell is functioning and the eyes produce tear. Nearly all infants born between this point and full term survive. By 29 weeks, pupils of the eyes react to light. By 31 weeks, the heart has beat more than 40 million times, and wrinkles in the skin disappear as more fat deposits are formed.

By 32 weeks, breathing movements occur up to 40% of the time. By 34 weeks true alveoli, or air "pocket" cells, begin developing in the lungs. At 36 weeks, scalp hair is silky and lies against the head. By 37 weeks, the unborn child has a firm hand grip, and the heart has beat more than 50 million times. The unborn child initiates labor, ideally around 40 weeks, leading to childbirth.

By state law, no person shall perform or induce an abortion when the unborn child is viable or pain-capable unless such person is a physician and has a documented referral. The physician who performs or induces an abortion when the unborn child is viable must have a documented referral from another physician not legally or financially affiliated with the physician performing or inducing the abortion. Both physicians must determine that the abortion is necessary to preserve the life of the pregnant woman or that a continuation of the pregnancy will cause a substantial and irreversible impairment of a major physical bodily function of the pregnant woman. If the child is born alive, the attending physician has the legal obligation to take all reasonable steps necessary to maintain the life and health of the child.

What about adoption? Women or couples facing an untimely pregnancy who choose not to take on the full responsibilities of parenthood have another option, which is adoption. Counseling and support services are a key part of adoption and are available from a variety of adoption agencies and parent support groups across the state. A list of adoption agencies is available. There are several ways to make a plan for adoption, including through a child placement agency or through a private attorney. Although fully anonymous adoptions are available, some degree of openness in adoption is more common, such as permitting the birth mother to choose the adoptive parents. A father only has the right to consent to an adoption or refuse consent and raise the child if he provides support for the mother during the last six months of the pregnancy.

The father of a child has a legal responsibility to provide for the support, educational, medical and other needs of the child. In Kansas, that responsibility includes child support payments to the child's mother or legal guardian. A child has rights of inheritance from the father and may be eligible through him for benefits such as life insurance, social security, pension, veteran's or disability benefits. Further, the child benefits from knowing the father's medical history and any potential health problems that can be passed genetically. A father's and mother's rights are equal regarding access, care and custody.

Paternity can be established in Kansas by two methods: (A) The father and mother, at the time of birth, can sign forms provided by the hospital acknowledging paternity and the father's name is added to the birth certificate; or (B) a legal action can be brought in a court of law to determine paternity and establish a child support order. Issues of paternity affect your legal rights and the rights of the child.

The decision regarding your pregnancy is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. There are lists of state, county and local health and social service agencies and organizations available to assist you. You are encouraged to contact these groups if you need more information so you can make an informed decision.

(4) A certification form to be used by physicians or their agents under subsection (e) of K.S.A. 65-6709, and amendments thereto, which will list all the items of information which are to be given to women by physicians or their agents under the woman's right-to-know act.

(5) A standardized video containing all of the information described in paragraphs (1) and (2). In addition, the video shall show ultrasound images, using the best available ultrasound technology, of an unborn child at two week gestational increments.

(b) The print materials required under this section shall be printed in a typeface large enough to be clearly legible. The informational video may be published in digital video disc format or in the latest video technology available. All materials required to be published under this section shall also be published online on the department's website. All materials shall be made available in both English and Spanish language versions.

(c) The materials required under this section shall be available at no cost from the department upon request and in appropriate number to any person, facility or hospital.