

# Guide to preterm labor

Sometimes a baby can arrive early. Babies who arrive before 37 weeks of pregnancy are considered “preterm” and could be at risk for health problems. Here’s what you should know about preterm labor, so you know what to watch for.

## What is preterm labor?

Preterm labor is labor that begins before the end of 36 weeks of pregnancy. Babies born between 22 and 37 weeks are called “premature.” They may need special care in a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU).

## Certain factors can put you at higher risk for preterm labor

- Smoking, alcohol use or street drug use.
- Having very high or very low weight.
- Lack of prenatal care.
- Health issues such as diabetes, high blood pressure or infections.
- Multiple pregnancy (twins, triplets or more).
- Family or personal history of preterm labor (let your doctor know).
- Short time between pregnancies.

## What does preterm labor feel like?

Preterm labor can include symptoms like:

- Thick or bloody drainage from your vagina; may have a foul odor.
- Contractions in your lower stomach or low backache.
- Vaginal bleeding or leaking fluid (also called “water breaking”).
- Cramps that feel like a period.
- Pressure like baby is pushing down low in your pelvis.
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

Call your doctor right away if you have any of the symptoms of preterm labor. You may or may not be admitted to the hospital. But you may need treatments like:

- IV fluids.
- Medicine to relax your uterus and stop labor.
- Medicine to help your baby’s lungs grow.

You may also be put on bed rest or asked to stop activity to help slow labor. If you give birth to your baby early, we have a team who may be able to help during your baby’s stay in the NICU.

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# Notice of Availability - Auxiliary Aids and Services Notice

English: Free language, auxiliary aid, and alternate format services are available.  
Call **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

العربية [Arabic]: تتوفر خدمات اللغة والمساعدة الإضافية والتنسيق البديل مجانًا. اتصل على الرقم **844-881-4482 (الهاتف النصي: 711)**.

Հայերեն [Armenian]: Հասանելի են անվճար լեզվական, աջակցման և այլընտրանքային ձևաչափի ծառայություններ: Չանգահարե՛ք՝ **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**:

বাংলা [Bengali]: বিনামূল্যে ভাষা, আনুষঙ্গিক সহায়তা, এবং বিকল্প বিন্যাসে পরিষেবা উপলব্ধ। ফোন করুন **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** নম্বরে।

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Kreyòl Ayisyen [Haitian Creole]: Lang gratis, èd oksilyè, ak lòt fòm sèvis disponib. Rele **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Hrvatski [Croatian]: Dostupni su besplatni jezik, dodatna pomoć i usluge alternativnog formata. Nazovite **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

فارسی [Farsi]: خدمات زبان رایگان، کمک های اضافی و فرمت های جایگزین در دسترس است. با **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** تماس بگیرید.

Français [French]: Des services gratuits linguistiques, d'aide auxiliaire et de mise au format sont disponibles. Appeler le **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Deutsch [German]: Es stehen kostenlose unterstützende Hilfs- und Sprachdienste sowie alternative Dokumentformate zur Verfügung. Telefon: **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Ελληνικά [Greek]: Διατίθενται δωρεάν γλωσσικές υπηρεσίες, βοηθήματα και υπηρεσίες σε εναλλακτικές προσβάσιμες μορφές. Καλέστε στο **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

ગુજરાતી [Gujarati]: નિ:શુલ્ક ભાષા, સહાયક સહાય અને વૈકલ્પિક ફોર્મેટ સેવાઓ ઉપલબ્ધ છે. **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** પર કોલ કરો.

עברית [Hebrew]: שירותים אלה זמינים בחינם: שירותי תרגום, אביזרי עזר וטקסטים בפורמטים חלופיים. נא התקשר למספר **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**

हिन्दी [Hindi]: नि:शुल्क भाषा, सहायक मदद और वैकल्पिक प्रारूप सेवाएं उपलब्ध हैं। **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** पर कॉल करें।

Hmoob [Hmong]: Muaj kev pab txhais lus, pab kom hnov suab, thiab lwm tus qauv pab cuam. Hu **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Italiano [Italian]: Sono disponibili servizi gratuiti di supporto linguistico, assistenza ausiliaria e formati alternativi. Chiama il numero **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

日本語 [Japanese]: 言語支援サービス、補助支援サービス、代替形式サービスを無料でご利用いただけます。**844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** までお電話ください。

This notice is available at **Humana.com/VirginiaDocuments**.

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ភាសាខ្មែរ [Khmer]: សេវាកម្មផ្នែកភាសា ជំនួយ និង សេវាកម្មជូនព្រមទាំងផ្សេងៗដ៏សំខាន់ៗ  
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한국어 [Korean]: 무료 언어, 보조 지원 및 대체 형식 서비스를 이용하실 수 있습니다.  
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ພາສາລາວ [Lao]: ມີການບໍລິການດ້ານພາສາ, ອຸປະກອນຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອ ແລະ ຮູບແບບທາງເລືອກອື່ນ  
ໃຫ້ໃຊ້ໄດ້. ໂທ **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Diné [Navajo]: Saad t'áá jiik'eh, t'áadoole'é binahjì' bee adahodoonííígíí diné bich'í'  
anídahazt'í'í, dóó łahgo át'éego bee hada'dilyaaígíí bee bika'aanída'awo'í dahóló. Kohjì'  
hodíílnih **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Polski [Polish]: Dostępne są bezpłatne usługi językowe, pomocnicze i alternatywne formaty.  
Zadzwoń pod numer **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Português [Portuguese]: Estão disponíveis serviços gratuitos de ajuda linguística auxiliar e  
outros formatos alternativos. Ligue **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ [Punjabi]: ਮੁਫ਼ਤ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ, ਸਹਾਇਕ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ, ਅਤੇ ਵਿਕਲਪਿਕ ਫਾਰਮੈਟ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹਨ।  
**844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** 'ਤੇ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ।

Русский [Russian]: Предоставляются бесплатные услуги языковой поддержки,  
вспомогательные средства и материалы в альтернативных форматах. Звоните по номеру  
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Español [Spanish]: Los servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística, ayuda auxiliar y  
servicios en otro formato están disponibles. Llame al **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Tagalog [Tagalog]: Magagamit ang mga libreng serbisyong pangwika, serbisyo o device na  
pantulong, at kapalit na format. Tumawag sa **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

தமிழ் [Tamil]: இலவச மொழி, துணை உதவி மற்றும் மாற்று வடிவ சேவைகள் உள்ளன.  
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తెలుగు [Telugu]: ఉచిత భాష, సహాయక మద్దతు, మరియు ప్రత్యామ్నాయ ఫార్మాట్ సేవలు  
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(TTY: 711) 844-881-4482 اردو [Urdu]: مفت زبان، معاون امداد، اور متبادل فارمیٹ کی خدمات دستیاب ہیں۔

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dạng thay thế. Hãy gọi **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

አማርኛ [Amharic]: ቋንቋ፣ አገዥ ማዳመጫ እና አማራጭ ቅርፅ ሆላቸው አገልግሎቶችዎ ይገኛሉ። በ  
**844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** ላይ ይደውሉ።

Bàsà [Bassa]: Wuḍu-xwíníín-mú-zà-zà kùà, Hwòdǒ-fáńa-nyo, kè nyo-boŭn-po-kà bé bé  
nyuεε se wídí péè-péè dò ko. **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)** dá.

Bekee [Igbo]: Asụsụ n'efu, enyemaka nkwarụ, na ọrụ usoro ndị ọzọ dị. Kpọọ **844-881-4482 (TTY: 711)**.

Òyìnbó [Yoruba]: Àwọn isẹ àtilẹhin ìrànlowó èdè, àti ọ̀nà kíkà mírán wà lárọ̀wótó. Pe  
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