

# Reflux tablet could save 60,000 lives lost to preeclampsia

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Preeclampsia can strike unsuspecting mothers at any time during pregnancy. Credit: University of Melbourne

An international collaboration led by the Translational Obstetrics Group (TOG) based at Mercy Hospital for Women has discovered a treatment that could save many of the 60,000 lives lost each year to preeclampsia.

Preeclampsia can strike unsuspecting mothers at any time during [pregnancy](#). It occurs when the preeclamptic placenta releases toxins that spread throughout the mother's circulation. These toxins damage blood vessels and injure major organs including the liver, kidneys, brain (causing fits), lungs and the blood clotting system.

Sadly, there is currently no [treatment](#) for [preeclampsia](#) other than to deliver the baby. When preeclampsia strikes at a preterm stage in pregnancy (

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