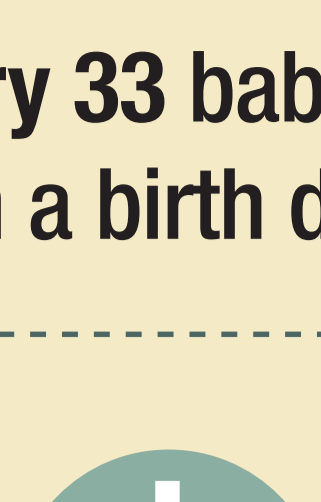


Know the Facts

BIRTH DEFECTS ARE...



Common:

1 in every 33 babies is born with a birth defect.



Costly:

Billions of dollars are required for medical treatment of children born with birth defects.



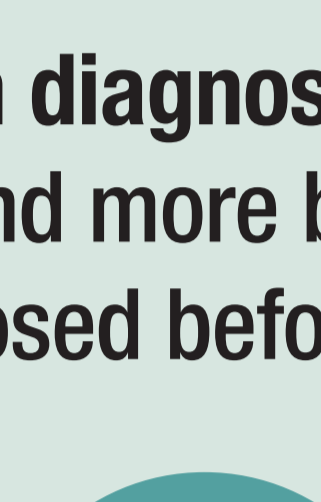
Merciless:

No parent is immune.



Mysterious:

There are more than 4,000 known birth defects, and the causes are largely unknown.



Deadly:

Birth defects are the leading cause of death in the first year of life.

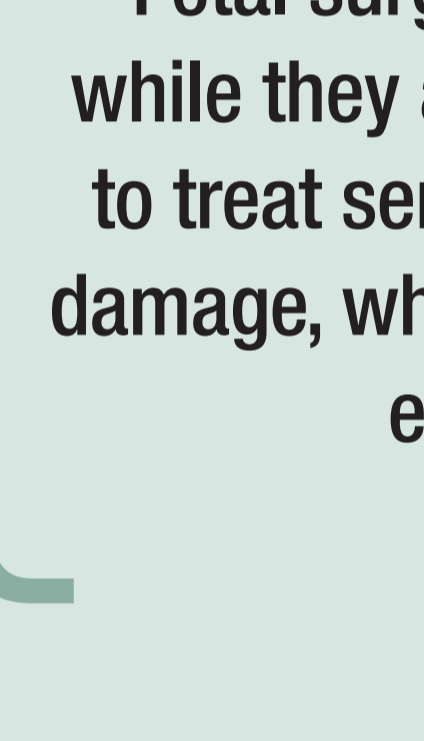


Overlooked:

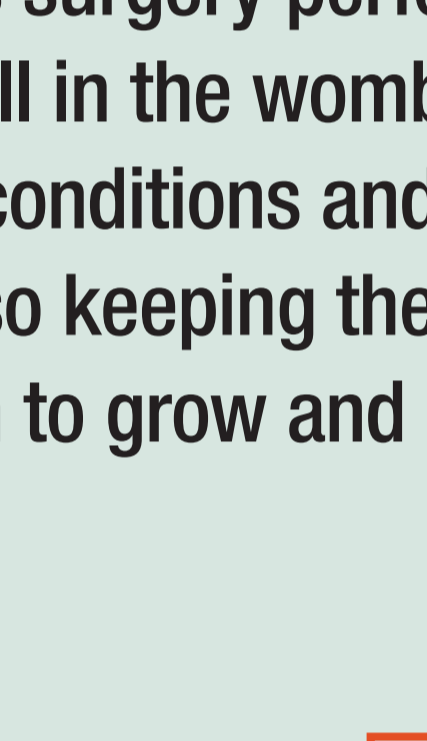
The amount of federal research funding allocated to research into better and earlier treatments for babies with birth defects is significantly lacking.

DID YOU KNOW?

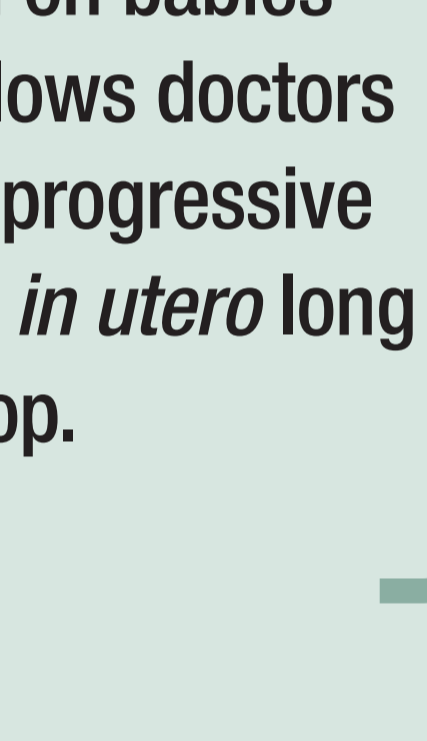
Advances in diagnostic tools have allowed more and more birth defects to be diagnosed before birth.



ULTRASOUND



FETAL MRI



GENETIC TESTING

Early diagnosis helps doctors plan for the care a sick baby might need immediately after birth.

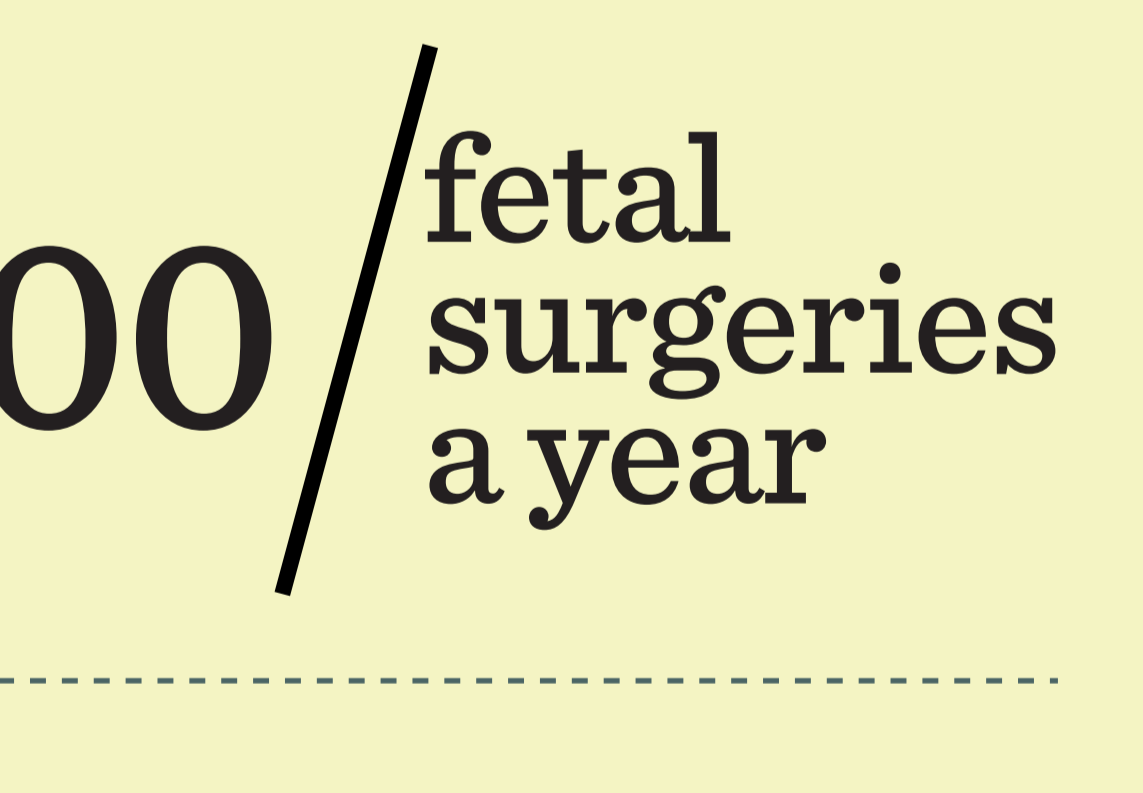
But some babies are so sick that they don't survive to delivery or live long after birth.

This dilemma led to the development of fetal surgery, an even earlier treatment option for the most serious and life-threatening birth defects.

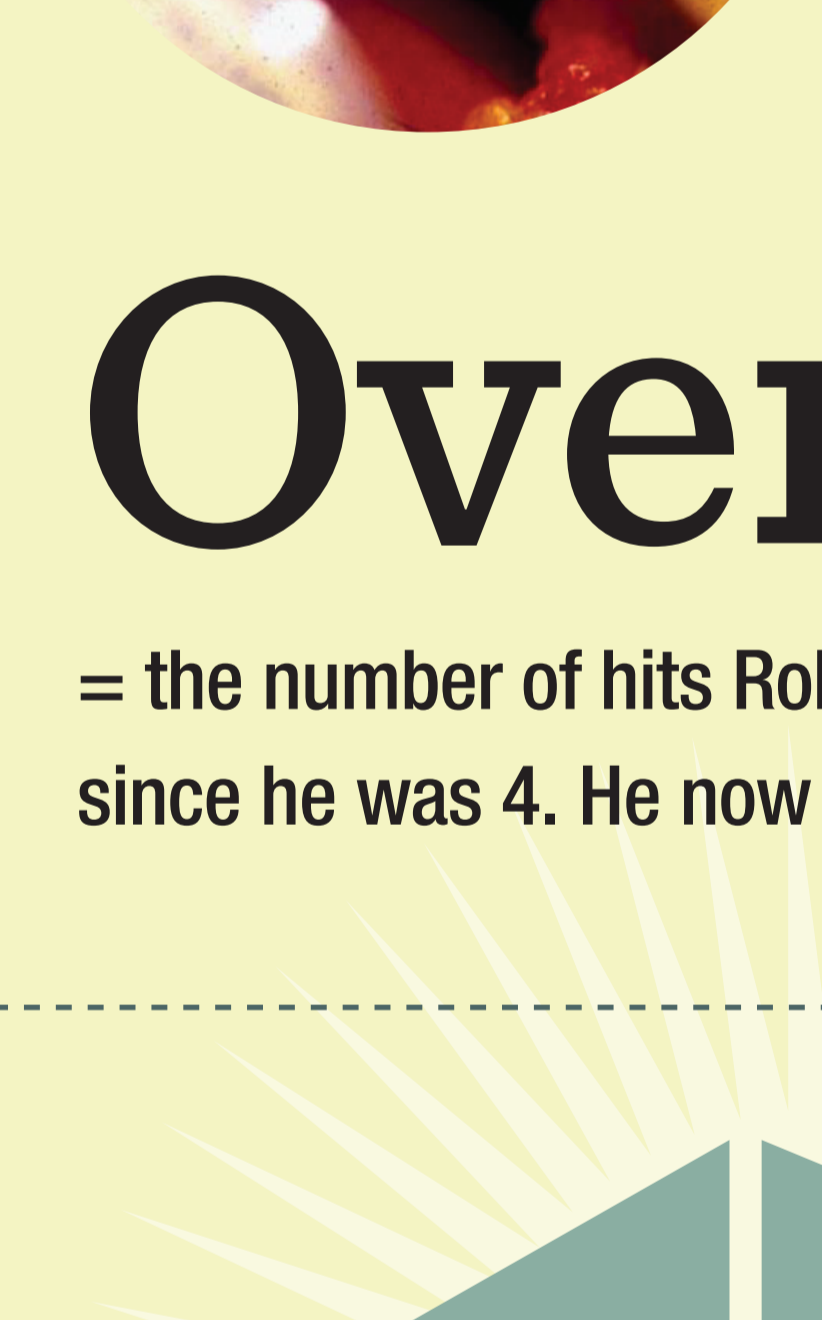
What is FETAL SURGERY?

Fetal surgery is surgery performed on babies while they are still in the womb. It allows doctors to treat serious conditions and stop progressive damage, while also keeping the baby *in utero* long enough to grow and develop.

1/2 inch
= The average size of the organs operated on during fetal surgery.



PIONEERS IN FETAL MEDICINE

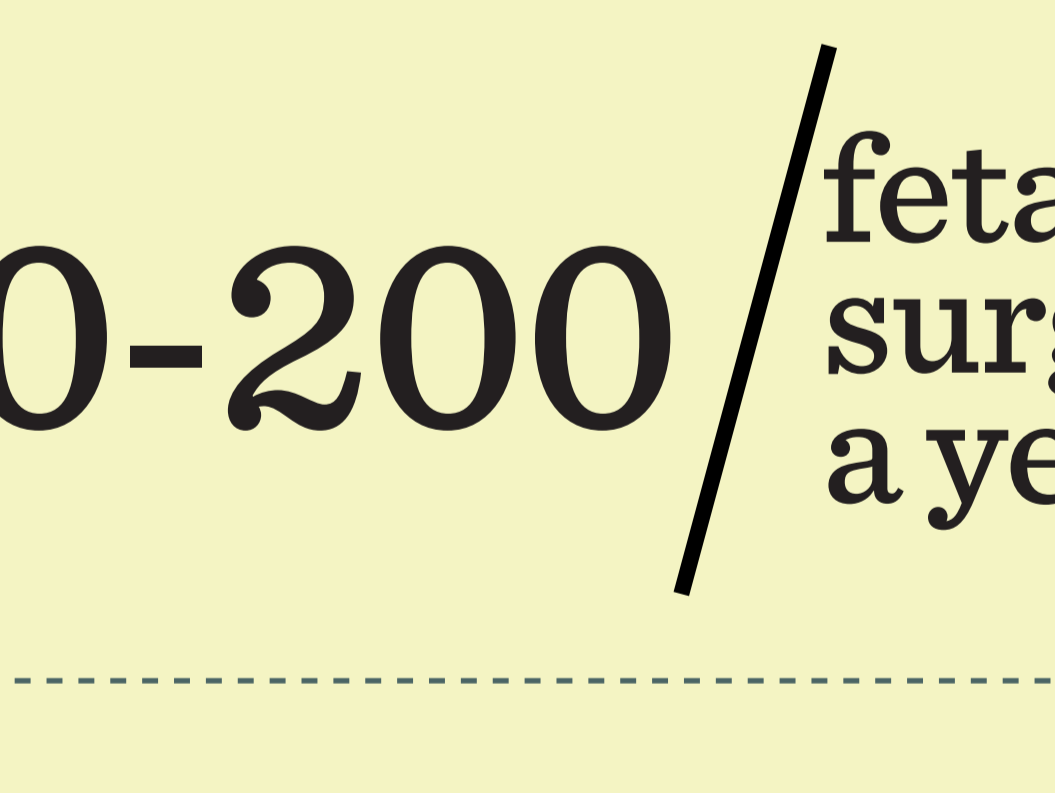


1996

The first fetal surgery at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia took place in 1996 on a patient named Roberto.

Over 400

= the number of hits Roberto has had playing baseball since he was 4. He now plays college ball in Texas.



The Center for Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment performs:

150-200 fetal surgeries a year

TOTALLING

more than 1,220 fetal surgeries.



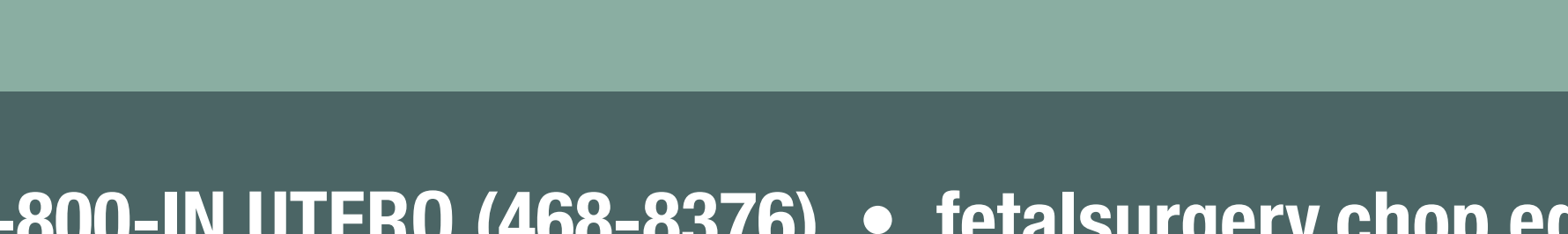
That's 1/4 of all reported fetal surgeries ever done and the largest volume by any center in the world.

100%

= the number of families who have benefited from research, clinical advances and other support made possible by charitable donations to the Center for Fetal Diagnosis and Treatment.

THE NEXT FRONTIER

Cellular and gene therapy offer the hope of treating diseases before birth, but research funding is needed.



Spread the Word

Share this with your friends and family. Help raise awareness of birth defects and the treatments available for them.

fetalsurgery.chop.edu

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®

CENTER FOR FETAL DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT