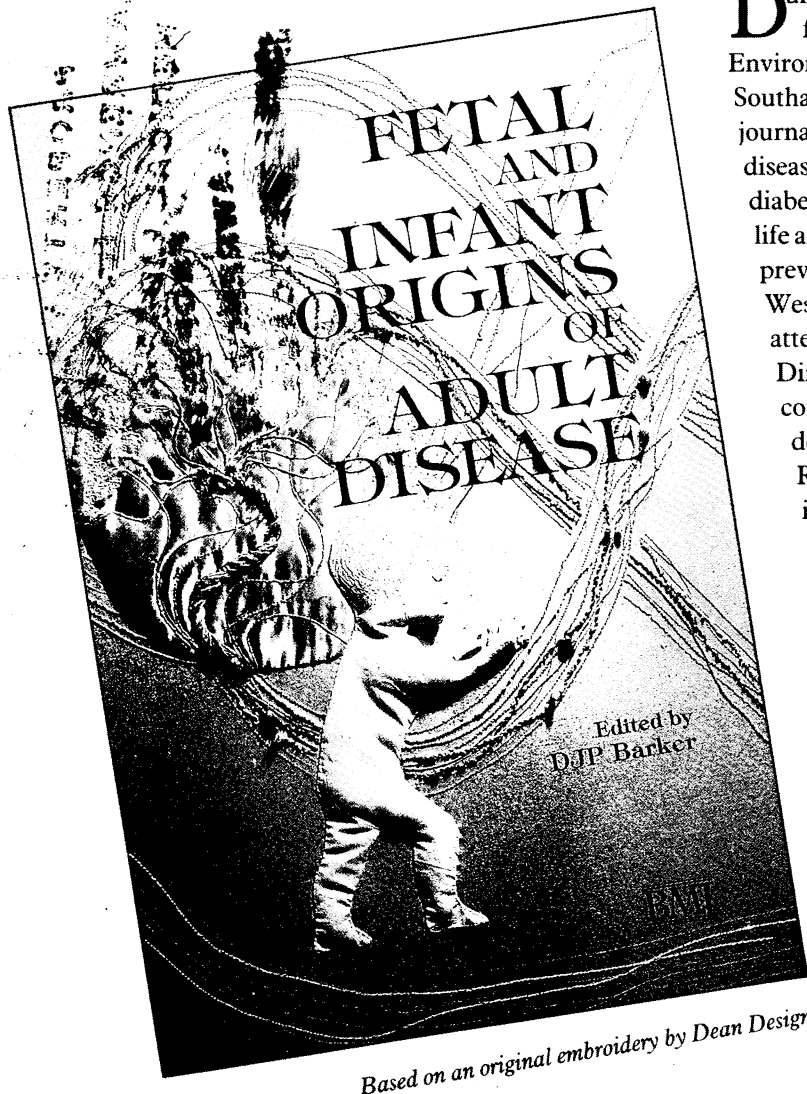


# Are the ills of middle and later life rooted in our early development?



During the past few years a series of articles, mostly from the Medical Research Council's Environmental Epidemiology Unit at the University of Southampton, has been published in leading medical journals. They set out the evidence that certain adult diseases, including coronary heart disease, stroke and diabetes originate in impaired development during fetal life and infancy. Because of the obvious implications for prevention of some of the commonest diseases in Western society, they have attracted international attention. In this book, Professor David Barker, Director of the Unit, has selected 31 articles that he considers seminal and a comprehensive guide to the development of this important topic. Professor Roger Robinson's introduction summarises and interprets the evidence for non-epidemiologists.

The first chapters describe the origins of the hypothesis in geographical studies in England and Wales. These are followed by a series of studies of men and women in middle and late life whose early growth was recorded at the time. In those who have died, cause of death can be related to early growth. Examination of the living has allowed blood pressure, blood lipid and insulin concentrations, and other measurements to be related to different patterns of early growth. Together, the findings show that early development affects the risk of coronary heart disease, stroke, obstructive lung disease and diabetes at least as strongly as obesity, smoking and other aspects of adult life style.

***Fetal and Infant Origins of Adult Disease*** brings together in one volume a body of work that cannot be ignored

Hardback • Illustrations • Tables • 368 pages • ISBN 0-7279-0743-3

UK £24.95; Abroad £30.00 (BMA members £22.95 or £28.00) including postage, by air abroad



**ORDER FORM**      **British Medical Journal, PO Box 295, London WC1H 9TE.**

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copy/ies of FETAL AND INFANT ORIGINS OF ADULT DISEASE

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
(print clearly)

Membership No \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Cheque enclosed (made payable to British Medical Journal) £ \_\_\_\_\_  
Debit my AMERICAN EXPRESS/VISA/MASTERCARD

Card No \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me a book catalogue

BMJ books are also available from major booksellers or the BMJ bookshop in BMA House. Book tokens accepted (UK only).