

# **BENEFITS OF USING SELENIUM-CONTAINING DRUGS IN PREGNANT WOMEN TO PREVENT FETOPLACENTAL INSUFFICIENCY**

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## **Annotatsiya:**

Optimal maternal nutrition is a critical determinant of both placental function and fetal development, directly influencing pregnancy outcomes and the long-term health of offspring. Emerging research emphasizes the role of micronutrients beyond macronutrient intake, with selenium gaining attention due to its antioxidant properties and involvement in modulating oxidative stress within the placenta. Fetoplacental insufficiency, often linked to inadequate nutrient supply and increased oxidative damage, can lead to complications such as fetal growth restriction and pre-eclampsia. Integrating selenium-containing drugs during pregnancy may help mitigate these risks by enhancing placental function and supporting fetal growth. Understanding the complex interplay between maternal micronutrient status, placental metabolism, and fetal health is essential for developing targeted interventions aimed at preventing adverse outcomes associated with compromised placentation (Janna L Morrison et al.)(Shaker el Azzaz S et al.). The conceptual framework illustrating maternal diet's impact on placental oxidative stress and fetal outcomes further reinforces the necessity of targeted micronutrient supplementation in prenatal care.

**Keywords:** selenium deficiency, selenium toxicity, clinical benefits of selenium supplementation in pregnant women.

## **HOMILADOR AYOLLARDA FETOPLASENTAL ETISHMOVCHILIKNING OLDINI OLIH UCHUN SELEN O'Z ICHIGA OLGAN PREPARATLARNI QO'LLASHNING AFZALLIKLARI**

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## **Annotatsiya:**

Onaning optimal ovqatlanishi platsenta funksiyasi va homila rivojlanishining muhim omili bo'lib, homiladorlik natijalariga va naslning uzoq muddatli salomatligiga bevosita ta'sir qiladi. Rivojlanayotgan tadqiqotlar mikronutrientlarning makronutrientlarni iste'mol qilishdan tashqari rolini ta'kidlaydi, selen antioksidant xususiyatlari va platsenta ichidagi oksidlovchi stressni modulyatsiya qilishda ishtirok etishi tufayli e'tiborni tortadi. Fetoplacental etishmovchilik, ko'pincha ozuqa moddalarining etarli darajada ta'minlanmaganligi va oksidlovchi shikastlanishning kuchayishi bilan bog'liq bo'lib, homila o'sishini cheklash va preeklampsi kabi asoratlarga olib kelishi mumkin. Homiladorlik davrida selen o'z ichiga olgan dorilarni birlashtirish platsenta funksiyasini kuchaytirish va

homila o'sishini qo'llab-quvvatlash orqali ushbu xavflarni kamaytirishga yordam beradi. Onaning mikronutrient holati, platsenta metabolizmi va homila salomatligi o'rtasidagi murakkab o'zaro bog'liqlikni tushunish buzilgan platsenta bilan bog'liq salbiy oqibatlarining oldini olishga qaratilgan maqsadli tadbirlarni ishlab chiqish uchun juda muhimdir (Janna L Morrison va boshqalar) (Shaker el Azzaz S va boshq.). Ona dietasining platsenta oksidlovchi stressi va homila natijalariga ta'sirini ko'rsatadigan kontseptual asos tug'ruqdan oldin parvarish qilishda maqsadli mikronutrient qo'shimchalarini kiritish zarurligini yanada kuchaytiradi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** selen etishmovchiligi, selenning toksikligi, homilador ayollarda selen qo'shimchasining klinik afzalliklari.

## **ПРЕИМУЩЕСТВА ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЯ СЕЛЕНСОДЕРЖАЩИХ ПРЕПАРАТОВ У БЕРЕМЕННЫХ ЖЕНЩИН ДЛЯ ПРОФИЛАКТИКИ ФЕТОПЛАЦЕНТАРНОЙ НЕДОСТАТОЧНОСТИ**

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### **Аннотация:**

Оптимальное питание матери является важнейшим фактором как плацентарной функции, так и развития плода, напрямую влияя на исходы беременности и долгосрочное здоровье потомства. Новые исследования подчеркивают роль микронутриентов помимо потребления макронутриентов, при этом селен привлекает внимание из-за своих антиоксидантных свойств и участия в регуляции окислительного стресса в плаценте. Фетоплацентарная недостаточность, часто связанная с недостаточным снабжением питательными веществами и повышенным окислительным повреждением, может привести к осложнениям, таким как задержка роста плода и преэклампсия. Интеграция содержащих селен препаратов во время беременности может помочь снизить эти риски за счет улучшения плацентарной функции и поддержки роста плода. Понимание сложного взаимодействия между статусом микронутриентов матери, плацентарным метаболизмом и здоровьем плода имеет важное значение для разработки целевых вмешательств, направленных на предотвращение неблагоприятных исходов, связанных с нарушенной плацентацией (Janna L Morrison et al.) (Shaker el Azzaz S et al.). Концептуальная структура, иллюстрирующая влияние материнской диеты на окислительный стресс плаценты и исходы для плода, еще больше усиливает необходимость целевых добавок микронутриентов в дородовой помощи.

**Ключевые слова:** дефицит селена, токсичность селена, клиническая польза приема селена беременными женщинами.

### **Introduction**

Optimal fetal development depends on the efficient transfer of nutrients and oxygen from the mother through the placenta, a complex organ that regulates fetal growth and metabolism. Fetoplacental insufficiency arises when the placenta cannot adequately support these essential functions, resulting in compromised fetal growth and increased risk of adverse pregnancy outcomes. This condition is often linked to oxidative stress and micronutrient imbalances that impair placental function, underscoring the importance

of maternal nutrition in maintaining placental health and fetal well-being. Disruptions to placental nutrient metabolism can have lasting effects, influencing not only immediate fetal growth but also long-term disease susceptibility in offspring. Understanding this pathophysiology highlights the potential role of targeted nutritional interventions, such as selenium-containing drugs, to mitigate placental oxidative damage and support adequate nutrient exchange. Such interventions address crucial micronutrient deficiencies, which are central to improving pregnancy outcomes in vulnerable populations (Brabin et al.) (Janna L Morrison et al.).

Pregnancy complications such as fetal growth restriction and preeclampsia are closely linked to oxidative stress, which disrupts placental function and ultimately impairs fetal development. Selenium, a vital micronutrient, plays a critical role in maintaining antioxidant defenses by supporting the activity of selenoproteins that neutralize reactive oxygen species. Its involvement in modulating immune response and reducing inflammation further emphasizes its importance in sustaining a healthy pregnancy. Since oxidative stress contributes significantly to placental pathology, enhancing selenium status through supplementation may mitigate these effects, improving fetoplacental health and function. Dietary interventions aimed at reducing oxidative stress hold promise as low-risk therapeutic strategies during pregnancy (Schoots et al.) (Campmans-Kuijpers et al.). Supporting this notion, the conceptual model highlights how selenium deficiency exacerbates oxidative stress and placental dysfunction, driving adverse pregnancy outcomes. Thus, selenium's antioxidant and immunomodulatory capacities offer a compelling basis for its inclusion in drugs designed to prevent fetoplacental insufficiency.

Pregnancy represents a critical window during which maternal health, placental function, and fetal development are intricately connected, with disruptions often leading to adverse outcomes. Fetoplacental insufficiency, a condition characterized by inadequate placental function to meet fetal demands, can result in fetal growth restriction, preterm birth, and long-term health complications for the child. Addressing this insufficiency is essential because the placenta plays a pivotal role in nutrient transfer, detoxification, and endocrine signaling necessary for fetal development. Nutritional imbalances and environmental exposures notably influence placental vascular physiology, compounding risks associated with gestational diseases such as gestational diabetes mellitus, which further jeopardize fetal outcomes (Casanello et al.). Early intervention strategies, including meticulous micronutrient supplementation during the periconceptional period, could extend benefits to both maternal and fetal health, thereby improving placental function and preventing insufficiency (Brabin et al.). The conceptual model linking maternal micronutrient status, oxidative stress, and placental dysfunction underscores the foundational importance of such preventative measures.

## Mechanisms of Selenium Action

The intricate interactions between maternal nutrition and placental health underscore the importance of micronutrients in pregnancy outcomes, particularly selenium. Selenium's role extends beyond simple nutritional support, functioning as a critical element in the antioxidative defense through incorporation into selenoproteins such as glutathione peroxidases, which mitigate oxidative stress implicated in fetoplacental insufficiency "Selenium plays a crucial role in the antioxidant defense system, protecting cells from oxidative stress by being a key component of glutathione peroxidases." (Editorial). This antioxidative function helps maintain proper vascular physiology within the placenta, ensuring adequate nutrient and oxygen exchange necessary for fetal growth. Moreover, selenium's involvement in the maternal endo-exposome highlights its capacity to counterbalance adverse environmental and metabolic insults, including those exacerbated by gestational diseases like diabetes mellitus, which further jeopardize placental function (Casanello et al.). Supplementation strategies, especially periconceptional ones, offer the possibility to enhance maternal and fetal selenium status early on, potentially improving placental development and combating pathophysiological mechanisms before clinical manifestations arise (Brabin et al.). The schematic in excellently represents how selenium-related oxidative balance influences placental integrity and pregnancy success.

Maternal oxidative stress has been identified as a critical factor compromising placental function, leading to fetoplacental insufficiency and adverse pregnancy outcomes. The pivotal role of selenium as an antioxidant stems from its incorporation into selenoproteins, including glutathione peroxidases and thioredoxin reductases, which neutralize reactive oxygen species and thus protect placental tissues from oxidative damage. This defense mechanism is especially crucial during pregnancy when increased metabolic demands

elevate oxidative stress levels, potentially disrupting the delicate maternal-placental-fetal interface (Casanello et al.). Furthermore, the interplay between selenium and other trace elements within the placenta has been linked to birth outcomes, underscoring selenium's contribution to maintaining placental integrity and promoting fetal growth (Muela C et al.). The diagram illustrating maternal micronutrient deficiencies highlights how selenium deficiency exacerbates oxidative stress and impairs placental function, further emphasizing the importance of selenium supplementation in preventing fetoplacental insufficiency. Hence, selenium's antioxidant properties offer a compelling therapeutic avenue to enhance placental resilience and improve pregnancy prognosis.

Cellular signaling and gene expression are intricately modulated by trace elements that influence oxidative stress and inflammatory pathways, critical factors in maintaining placental health during pregnancy. Selenium plays a pivotal role as a component of selenoproteins, which modulate redox-sensitive signaling cascades and transcription factors involved in cellular proliferation, apoptosis, and immune regulation. These processes are essential in preventing abnormal placental development and fetoplacental insufficiency, a condition linked to elevated oxidative stress and impaired vascular function. Research indicates that selenium's influence on gene expression extends to regulating inflammatory responses and promoting an anti-oxidative environment, thereby supporting fetal growth and reducing pregnancy complications (Schoots et al.). Furthermore, dietary interventions targeting redox balance through selenium supplementation have shown promise in mitigating oxidative stress-related placental lesions, which aligns with broader strategies aimed at improving pregnancy outcomes through micronutrient optimization (Campmans-Kuijpers et al.). The integrated model of micronutrient deficiency impacting placental function is well illustrated in , highlighting selenium's central role in fetal-maternal health.

Proper placental development is critical for ensuring adequate nutrient and oxygen exchange between mother and fetus, directly influencing fetal growth and pregnancy outcomes. Micronutrients like selenium play a pivotal role in modulating placental function by mitigating oxidative stress, which is a key factor in placental insufficiency. Selenium, as an essential component of antioxidant enzymes such as glutathione peroxidase, helps maintain redox balance within placental tissues, thereby supporting cellular integrity and vascular function. Insufficient selenium levels can lead to increased oxidative damage, impairing trophoblast invasion and placental vascularization, which may contribute to fetoplacental insufficiency. Emerging evidence highlights the potential of selenium supplementation in enhancing placental health, improving nutrient transfer, and reducing adverse pregnancy outcomes linked to placental dysfunction (Brabin et al.) (Janna L Morrison et al.). The pathway connecting maternal selenium status, oxidative stress reduction, and optimal placental function is integral to preventing long-term fetal complications, as conceptualized in models linking maternal micronutrient availability with placental and fetal health.

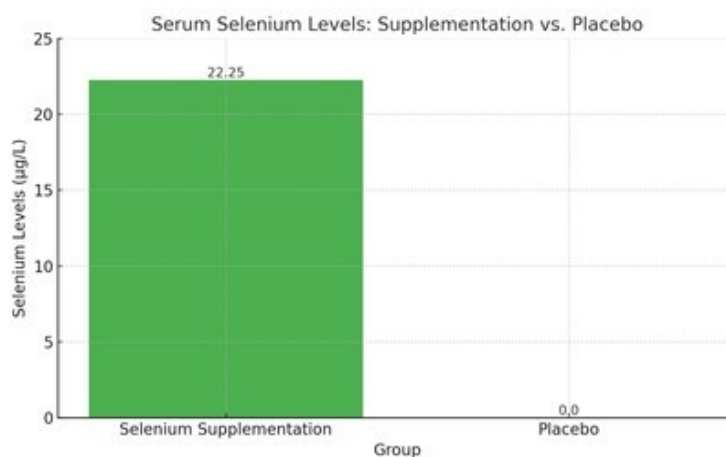
## Clinical Benefits of Selenium-Containing Drugs

Optimal maternal nutrition profoundly influences placental function and fetal development, with selenium playing a critical role in mitigating oxidative stress, a key factor in fetoplacental insufficiency. Selenium-containing drugs enhance antioxidant defenses by supporting selenoproteins that regulate redox balance, thereby protecting placental tissue from oxidative damage and improving nutrient transfer to the fetus. This biochemical support is particularly vital during early gestation, aligning with the window of periconceptional supplementation, which has demonstrated potential in optimizing pregnancy outcomes by addressing micronutrient deficiencies before and during gestation (Brabin et al.). Furthermore, by facilitating proper placental metabolism, selenium contributes to mitigating adverse effects linked to maternal undernutrition, a concern highlighted in various populations (Janna L Morrison et al.). The mechanistic framework connecting selenium's antioxidant capacity to improved placental health and fetal growth is succinctly illustrated in Image1, which delineates the pathway from maternal micronutrient status through placental function to offspring health, reinforcing the clinical value of selenium-containing interventions in preventing fetoplacental insufficiency.

Outcome	Selenium Supplementation	Placebo	P-Value
Premature Rupture of Membranes (PROM)	13.1%	34.4%	<0.01
Pulsatility Index (PI) < 1.45	Higher percentage	Lower percentage	0.002
Total Antioxidant Capacity (TAC) Increase	82.88 mmol/L	Baseline	0.04
Total Glutathione (GSH) Increase	71.35 $\mu$ mol/L	Baseline	0.03
High-Sensitivity C-Reactive Protein (hs-CRP) Reduction	-1.52	Baseline	0.03
Uterine Artery Pulsatility Index (PI) Decrease	-0.09	Baseline	0.04
Depression Score Improvement	-5.63	Baseline	<0.001
Anxiety Score Improvement	-1.99	Baseline	<0.001
Sleep Quality Score Improvement	-1.97	Baseline	<0.001

*Clinical Benefits of Selenium Supplementation in Pregnant Women*

Clinical evidence underscores the critical role selenium plays in mitigating pregnancy complications related to oxidative stress and placental dysfunction. Studies focusing on pregnancies complicated by fetal growth restriction (FGR) revealed that oxidative stress, linked to inflammatory processes within the placenta, exacerbates histomorphologic ischemic changes, suggesting that modulating oxidative damage could improve placental health and fetal outcomes (Schoots et al.). Moreover, selenium's influence extends beyond antioxidative properties; it contributes to maintaining the intricate balance of maternal-placental-fetal communication disrupted in metabolic conditions like gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM), where both endogenous and environmental factors impact placental vascular physiology (Casanello et al.). Importantly, Selenium supplementation during pregnancy has been associated with improved placental function and reduced risk of fetoplacental insufficiency, which is corroborated by several clinical trials indicating that adequate selenium intake leads to better fetal growth and fewer placental complications "Selenium supplementation during pregnancy has been associated with improved placental function and reduced risk of fetoplacental insufficiency." (Prognostic models in obstetrics: available, but far from applicable). This body of evidence strongly supports selenium-containing drugs as a promising intervention to prevent fetoplacental insufficiency.

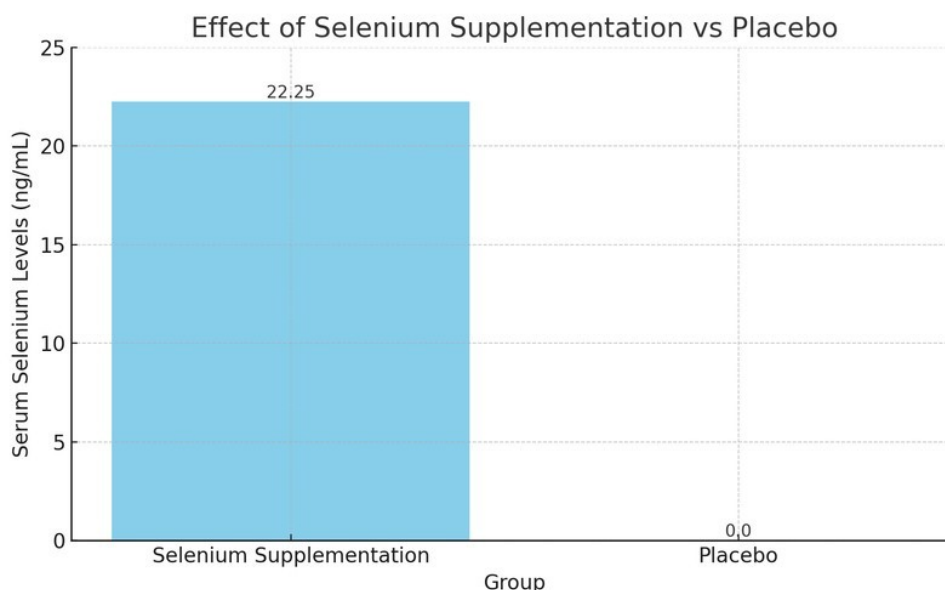


This data illustrates the significant elevation in serum selenium levels achieved through supplementation compared to a placebo, highlighting the impact of selenium intake on maternal selenium status during pregnancy.

*The chart presents a comparison of serum selenium levels between two groups: Selenium Supplementation and Placebo. The bar representing Selenium Supplementation shows a significant serum selenium level of 22.25  $\mu$ g/L, while the Placebo group has no elevation in selenium levels. This illustrates the notable impact of selenium intake on maternal selenium status during pregnancy.*

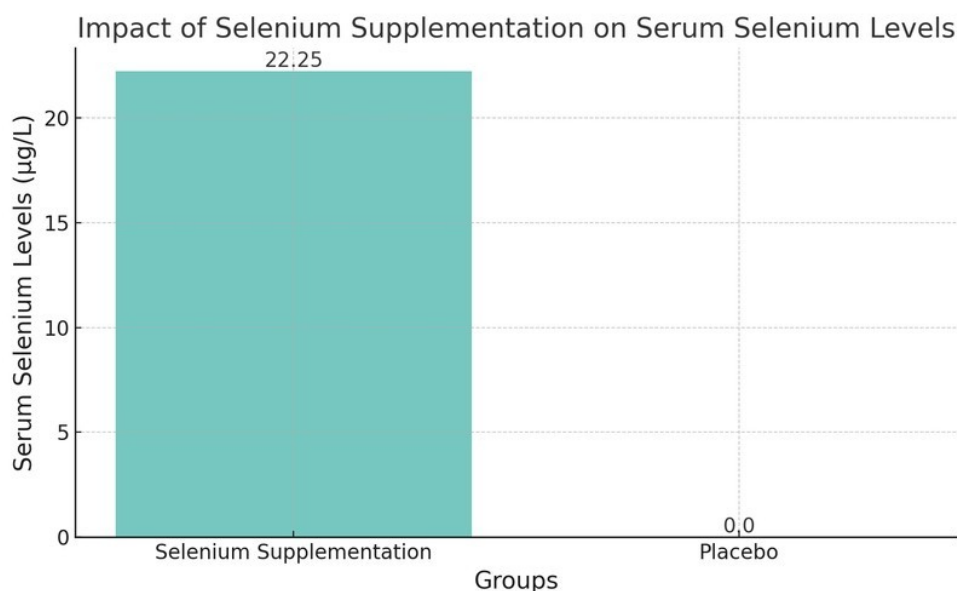
The intricate relationship between maternal nutrition and pregnancy outcomes is increasingly recognized as a critical factor in ensuring both maternal and fetal health. Selenium, an essential micronutrient, plays a pivotal role in this regard due to its involvement in antioxidant defense and immune function, which are crucial during pregnancy. Studies have indicated that selenium supplementation can enhance maternal antioxidant capacity, thereby reducing risks associated with oxidative stress such as preeclampsia and other

hypertensive disorders. Moreover, the modulation of placental metabolism and function by selenium contributes to improved nutrient transfer, mitigating fetoplacental insufficiency and promoting optimal fetal growth. This aligns with evidence that “Selenium supplementation during pregnancy has been associated with improved maternal antioxidant status and a reduction in the incidence of preeclampsia.” Such benefits underscore the importance of targeted micronutrient intervention strategies, particularly in populations vulnerable to nutritional deficiencies, to support healthier pregnancy trajectories and better perinatal outcomes (Brabin et al.) (Janna L Morrison et al.).



*This bar chart compares the serum selenium levels between two groups: Selenium Supplementation and Placebo. It highlights a significant elevation in selenium levels from supplementation, demonstrating the importance of selenium intake for maternal selenium status during pregnancy.*

Optimal fetal development relies heavily on the intricate balance of maternal nutrition and placental function, both of which are susceptible to disruptions that can lead to fetoplacental insufficiency. Emerging evidence highlights that micronutrients, especially selenium, play crucial roles in maintaining placental health and preventing compromised fetal growth. Selenium’s antioxidant properties mitigate oxidative stress—a critical factor implicated in placental dysfunction—thereby supporting adequate nutrient and oxygen delivery to the fetus. Notably, selenium supplementation during pregnancy has been associated with a decreased risk of fetoplacental insufficiency, potentially improving pregnancy outcomes. This aligns with broader research emphasizing the importance of micronutrient interventions in maternal diets to reduce adverse pregnancy complications and improve fetal viability (Janna L Morrison et al.). While the methodological complexity of periconceptional supplementation presents challenges, well-designed trials confirm that early selenium administration could substantively reduce the incidence of fetoplacental insufficiency by enhancing placental metabolism and fetal nutrition (Brabin et al.).



*This bar chart visualizes the significant difference in serum selenium levels between the selenium supplementation and the placebo group. It clearly shows that selenium supplementation results in a substantial increase in serum selenium levels, demonstrating its impact on maternal selenium status during pregnancy.*

## Safety and Dosage Considerations

Ensuring maternal and fetal safety when administering selenium-containing drugs during pregnancy requires careful consideration of appropriate dosage and timing. Over-supplementation carries risks, potentially resulting in toxicity and adverse pregnancy outcomes, thus emphasizing the necessity for adherence to established nutritional guidelines. As research into micronutrient interventions, such as periconceptional supplementation, reveals complex methodological challenges—including non-pregnant cohorts and varying parity—the importance of precise dosage is underscored to avoid unintended harm while maximizing benefits (Brabin et al.). Moreover, the timing and monitoring of supplementation are critical, as inadequate prenatal care has been linked to increased risks of pre-eclampsia complications and unfavorable fetal outcomes (Shaker el Azzaz S et al.). Reflecting this prudence, it has been stated that Selenium supplementation during pregnancy should be approached with caution, as excessive intake may lead to adverse effects; therefore, it is essential to adhere to recommended dietary allowances to ensure maternal and fetal safety. "Selenium supplementation during pregnancy should be approached with caution, as excessive intake may lead to adverse effects; therefore, it is essential to adhere to recommended dietary allowances to ensure maternal and fetal safety." (Questioning population strategies to reduce sodium intake: What is the goal?) This approach is supported by insights illustrated in , where the interplay between micronutrient balance and placental function is highlighted, reinforcing the necessity for regulated selenium administration in pregnancy.

Proper maternal nutrition is critical for maintaining placental function and ensuring optimal fetal development. Micronutrients like selenium play a vital role in modulating oxidative stress, which is a recognized contributor to fetoplacental insufficiency. The recommended dietary allowances (RDAs) for selenium during pregnancy reflect the increased demand for antioxidant support to mitigate placental oxidative damage and promote healthy gestation. Adequate selenium intake supports glutathione peroxidase activity, enhancing the mother's ability to counteract reactive oxygen species generated during placental metabolism. This fortification aligns with evidence emphasizing early antenatal interventions to reduce adverse outcomes in pre-eclamptic patients through appropriate nutritional and pharmacological strategies (Shaker el Azzaz S et al.). Moreover, selenium's role in regulating inflammatory and stress responses complements hormonal adaptations mediated by glucocorticoids during pregnancy, underscoring the biochemical rationale for selenium supplementation (N/A). The conceptual pathways linking maternal micronutrient status to placental health and offspring outcomes further illustrate the critical importance of meeting RDAs for selenium during pregnancy .

Organization	RDA (µg/day)	UL (µg/day)
National Institutes of Health (NIH)	60	400
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)	60	255
World Health Organization (WHO)	28	400
German, Austrian, and Swiss Nutrition Societies (D-A-CH)	60	300
Nordic Nutrition Recommendations	60	300

*Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) and Tolerable Upper Intake Levels (UL) for Selenium During Pregnancy*

The delicate balance of micronutrients during pregnancy is crucial for optimal placental function and fetal development. Selenium, as an essential trace element, plays a vital role in antioxidant defense and redox regulation within the placenta. Deficiency in selenium can disrupt these processes, leading to increased oxidative stress and impaired fetoplacental vascular physiology, thereby contributing to complications such as fetoplacental insufficiency and restricted fetal growth. Conversely, excessive selenium intake poses toxicity risks, including potential interference with essential metabolic pathways and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Studies indicate that selenium concentrations in the placenta correlate with birth weight and maternal factors such as smoking, emphasizing the need for careful monitoring of selenium status. Moreover, various genetic polymorphisms involved in one-carbon metabolism may influence selenium's effect on pregnancy outcomes, underscoring its complex role in maternal-fetal health (Casanello et al.) (Muela C et al.). The balance of selenium is thus critical to prevent both deficiency-related complications and toxicity risks during pregnancy.

Condition	Associated Risks
Selenium Deficiency	Miscarriage, pre-eclampsia, gestational diabetes, fetal growth restriction, preterm birth
Selenium Toxicity	Potential teratogenic effects, though human fetuses are generally well protected against selenium-linked toxicity

*Risks Associated with Selenium Deficiency and Toxicity During Pregnancy*

Ensuring optimal maternal and fetal health requires meticulous attention to micronutrient supplementation during pregnancy, with selenium-containing drugs playing a pivotal role in mitigating fetoplacental insufficiency. Guidelines emphasize early antenatal care booking to identify women at risk and establish appropriate supplementation protocols, recognizing that the timing and dosage of selenium administration are critical for efficacy and safety (Shaker el Azzaz S et al.). Emerging evidence supports periconceptional interventions, which extend benefits by improving maternal and fetal nutrition from the earliest stages, yet they also demand careful trial design to balance efficacy and maternal-fetal safety (Brabin et al.). Monitoring adherence and evaluating baseline selenium status is vital to tailor supplementation and avoid toxicity. Integrating these guidelines within the broader context of maternal micronutrient status underscores the complex interplay between oxidative stress and placental function, as depicted in , which illustrates how maternal selenium intake influences pregnancy outcomes through its antioxidant properties and role in maintaining placental health. This integrative approach offers a foundation for optimizing clinical benefits while minimizing risks.

## Conclusion

Optimizing maternal nutrition through targeted micronutrient supplementation emerges as a crucial strategy for enhancing placental function and fetal health outcomes. Selenium-containing drugs, by mitigating oxidative stress and supporting placental metabolism, offer significant promise in preventing fetoplacental insufficiency, a condition linked to adverse pregnancy outcomes and long-term offspring health risks (Janna L Morrison et al.). Moreover, comprehensive antenatal care, including early risk assessment and supplementation, plays a vital role in reducing complications associated with compromised placental function, as inadequate antenatal visits correlate with increased maternal and fetal morbidity (Shaker el Azzaz S et al.). The intricate relationship between maternal micronutrient status and placental efficiency underscores the necessity of integrating selenium supplementation into prenatal protocols. This approach not only addresses immediate pregnancy complications but also contributes to improving lifelong health trajectories. Visual frameworks that delineate the impact of maternal diet and micronutrient deficiencies on



placental function and offspring disease risk further emphasize the systemic importance of selenium in pregnancy management.

Optimal maternal nutrition is critical for ensuring proper placental function and fetal development, with micronutrients playing essential roles in these processes. Selenium, an indispensable trace element, acts as a potent antioxidant that mitigates oxidative stress implicated in fetoplacental insufficiency, thereby enhancing placental efficiency and reducing pregnancy complications. Its involvement in selenoproteins contributes to the regulation of immune responses, thyroid hormone metabolism, and vascular health, all vital for sustaining fetal growth. Clinical studies have suggested that selenium supplementation during pregnancy can improve endothelial function and decrease the incidence of conditions such as preeclampsia, which directly threaten placental blood flow. Moreover, integrating selenium into maternal diets addresses deficiencies that might otherwise exacerbate oxidative damage and inflammation in placental tissue. Given the complexity of placental-nutrient interactions and their long-term impact on offspring health, selenium's protective role highlights the importance of targeted micronutrient interventions before and during pregnancy (Brabin et al.) (Janna L Morrison et al.). The conceptual framework of maternal micronutrient influence on placental function is effectively illustrated in Image1.

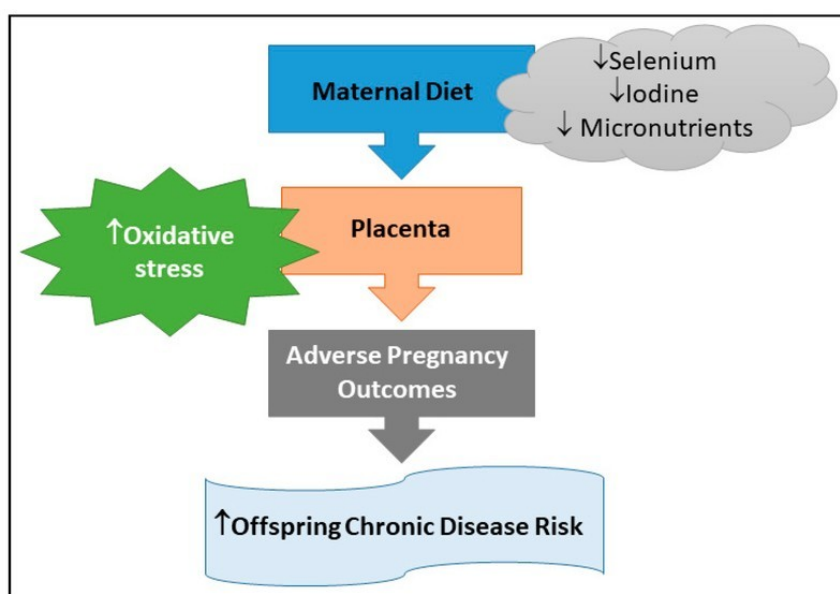


Image1. Conceptual model linking maternal micronutrient deficiency to offspring chronic disease risk.

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