

Gravida: internationally recognised research into the biological, medical and agricultural aspects of growth and development.



A Centre of Research Excellence
hosted by The University of Auckland



Our partners

A CENTRE
OF RESEARCH
EXCELLENCE



What factors affect our
growth and development?

www.gravida.org.nz
info@gravida.org.nz
T: +64 9 923 1625
F: +64 9 373 7039

Our talented researchers are working for the future of New Zealand.

Gravida is a Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE). We bring together developmental, biomedical, animal and population scientists from across New Zealand to address the question: What makes the best start for a healthy life?



Our research

We aim to gain a better understanding of the effects of early-life environmental influences on growth and life-long health.

Environmental influences before, during and shortly after pregnancy can subtly alter how humans and animals develop. This in turn can affect health later in life, and potentially the health of the next generation. In humans these changes increase the risk of developing conditions such as obesity, type 2 diabetes and heart disease. In farm animals the same changes may affect their health, and reduce farm productivity.

Our research seeks to understand what influences in early life affect development and have long-term consequences.

How our research benefits New Zealand

Our research leads to:

- improvements in public health policy
- better clinical practices
- innovative education and outreach programmes
- increased lamb survival and better meat composition.

The benefits are shared by all through:

- increased health awareness in our communities
- healthier mothers, babies and children
- increased scientific literacy in young New Zealanders
- more productive farming.

