

Developmental outcomes good for late preterm infants in NICU

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Late preterm infants, born at 34 to 36 weeks of gestation, who receive intensive care, have similar cognitive, motor, and language skills at age 3 as late preterm infants who do not receive intensive care, according to a study published online Oct. 1 in *Pediatrics*.

(HealthDay)—Late preterm infants (LPIs), born at 34 to 36 weeks of gestation, who receive intensive care, have similar cognitive, motor, and language skills at age 3 as LPIs who did not receive intensive care, according to a study published online Oct. 1 in *Pediatrics*.

To examine the impact of neonatal intensive or high-dependency care (IC) on [developmental outcomes](#) at 3 years of age, Jennifer E. McGowan, Ph.D., R.N., from Queen's University Belfast in the United Kingdom, and colleagues conducted a [cohort study](#) involving 225 children born late preterm in Northern Ireland during 2006.

The researchers found that LPI infants who received IC were more often

less mature (34 weeks of gestation) than LPI infants who did not receive IC ([control group](#)) and had lower [birth weight](#) ($\leq 2,500$ g) and Apgar scores (

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