

Painkiller Warning for Pregnant Women

Doctors yesterday advised pregnant women to avoid taking common painkillers such as ibuprofen because of fears they could be linked to miscarriage.

According to a study in the *British Medical Journal*, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs - commonly used to treat backache during pregnancy - are associated with an increased risk of losing a baby.

The Danish researchers, who examined the cases of 35,000 women, said more work needed to be done to establish whether taking the drugs actually caused miscarriage. However, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists urged women to be careful and use alternative painkillers.