

Cover image: An ovary of the livebearing, placental fish *Poeciliopsis prolifica*. In the center of the image is a late-stage embryo with the network of blood vessels that comprises the placenta. In the background are a one-cell embryo and embryos at earlier stages. In fish that have recently evolved placental birth, *insulin-like growth factor II*, which regulates embryonic growth, is subject to strong Darwinian selection. See the article by O'Neill *et al.* on pages 12404–12409. Image courtesy of Michael O'Neill.

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