

## **New Device Can Detect Life In Fetus Only 2 Inches Long**

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pg. 38

### **New Device Can Detect Life In Fetus Only 2 Inches Long**

SEATTLE, Oct. 11 (AP)—A new way of detecting life in unborn babies less than two inches long—with a device producing sounds that the mother can hear—was described today at a meeting of the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Robert F. Rushmer said the blood-flow measuring technique had picked up the earliest known fetal heart sound, at

the age of 10 weeks, when nothing could be heard with a stethoscope.

The instrument can also be used to trace blood movement in the arteries to find ballooning or obstructions, Dr. Rushmer said. He is a professor of physiology and biophysics at the University of Washington.

The device is held to the skin. It generates ultrasonic waves—sounds too high-pitched to be audible. Their frequency is altered slightly when reflected from moving particles in the

blood. The ultrasonic waves are amplified so they can be heard in headphones.