

Check your understanding



1 What is genomic imprinting?

Answer [Every gene in our body has two copies. When one of the copies is not active, the gene is imprinted.]

2 What does the gene *Phlda2* do?

Answer [It regulates the size of a placental part that produces pregnancy-related hormones.]

3 Lower doses of *Phlda2* do what to the placenta?

Answer [Lower doses of *Phlda2* = bigger hormone-related part of the placenta]

4 Lower doses of the gene do what to the mother?

Answer [Lower doses of *Phlda2* = better maternal care.]

5 Is genomic imprinting in this case in favor of the father or the mother?

Answer [In favor of the father. If both copies of the gene were expressed, the mother would have invested less time and care for the babies.]