Comment on “Identifying Human Teratogens: An Update”

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I read with interest the concise foreword on identifying the human teratogens by Alwan and Chambers which was published in the special issue *Prenatal Exposures and Short and Long Term Developmental Outcomes* of Journal of Pediatric Genetics.¹

The authors referred the maternal rubella infection,² as the first identified human teratogen. However, teratogenic effects of X-ray irradiation had been suggested by Goldstein and Murphy in 1929,^{3,4} which was 12 years before Gregg made the observation regarding rubella in 1941.²

Therefore, the first identified human teratogen is not rubella but X-ray irradiation.^{3–5}

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