1. **Teratology**: The study of the causes and effects of malformations or serious deviations from normal development.

2. **Teratogenic agent**: A substance or condition that causes developmental malformations.

3. **Classic teratogens:**
   - Thalidomide
     *40 years ago sedative (not U.S.)—anti-nausea properties
     *prescribed to pregnant women for morning sickness
     *teratological effect on baby's, e.g., limbs:
       -used early in development for morning sickness
       -near 100% teratology (over 10,000 children impacted)
       -action: suppresses limb blood vessel development
       -anti-angiogenesis

*society reaction: banned 35 years ago, never approved by FDA (buyers groups), led to teratological testing of drugs
*today: discovery of remarkable therapeutic properties
  -immunomodulatory—AIDS, organ transplant rejection
  -anti-inflammatory
  -leprosy & dermatological conditions
  -cancer
*society issue: to lift or not to lift the ban to treat leprosy
(FDA approves for leprosy)