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Patsy M. Brannon, Ph.D., R.D., is a professor of nutritional sciences and director of the Dietetic Internship at Cornell University. She teaches nutrition and the life cycle and developmental nutrition. Her research focuses on the mechanisms whereby maternal nutrition, including undernutrition and vitamin D status, alters the regulation of placental growth and its relationship to adverse outcomes to the fetus and adult offspring. Prior to Cornell University, she served on the Institute of Medicine Committee to Review the Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium and Vitamin D, was a visiting professor at the National Institute of Health Office of Dietary Supplements, and served as the Rebecca Q. and James C. Morgan Dean of the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University and the chair of the Department of Nutrition and Food Science at the University of Maryland-College Park. She received her B.S. and M.S. in nutrition and food science from Florida State University and her Ph.D. in nutritional biochemistry from Cornell University.