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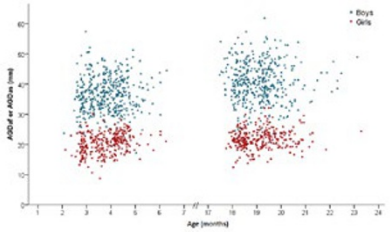
Early Career Investigator

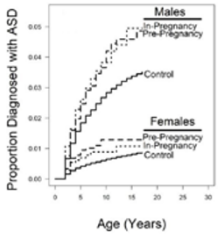
Congratulations to Kriti Puri, the Early Career Investigator for our March issue. In her Commentary, she describes growing up in the foothills of the Himalayas, the influence of her father, and how she wound up as a pediatric cardiology fellow in Texas. She also offers advice to beginners in the field: find suitable mentors. In a study reported in this issue, Dr Puri and colleagues investigated the differential growth of fetuses with various congenital cardiac malformations. **See pages 556 and 669**

Anogenital distance correlates between 3 and 18 months



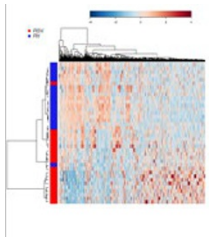
Anogenital distance may be useful as an indicator of fetal androgen exposure, but the growth pattern over time has been little studied. Priskorn *et al*. determined that measurements correlate between 3 months and 18 months, suggesting that this measurement is a unique phenotype. **See page 573**

Maternal hypothyroidism increases risk of autism



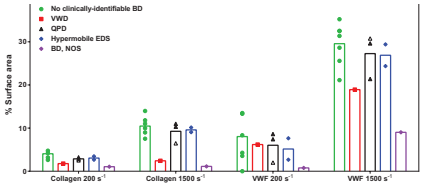
Getahun *et al*. show that maternal hypothyroidism, diagnosed before or during pregnancy, increases the risk of autism spectrum disorder. They also investigated whether the risk is influenced by ethnicity, fetal sex, and timing of exposure to hypothyroidism. **See page 580**

Differences in nasal microRNAs of rhinovirus versus RSV



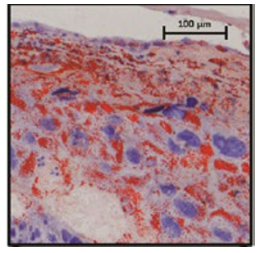
In this very interesting study, Hasegawa *et al*. found differences in the microRNA profiles of nasal epithelium from infants infected with rhinovirus as compared with those who had respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Rhinovirus appeared to target the NF-κB pathway. **See page 606**

Novel platelet-function assays



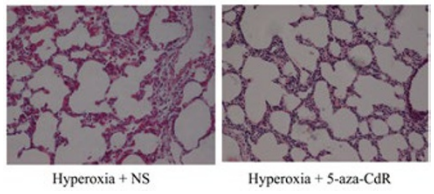
Rocheleau *et al*. used novel assays to study platelet function in a group of adolescent women with heavy menstrual bleeding, some of whom were diagnosed with a bleeding disorder. They found abnormal platelet function in both the women with a bleeding disorder and those without. **See page 693**

Lipid processing in the placenta affects diabetic pregnancies



Diabetes and obesity are known to affect pregnancy, but lipid processing by the placenta has not been studied. Louwagie *et al*. show that either diabetes or a high-fat diet adversely affects lipid processing, and that a combination of the two has the most severe effects. **See page 712**

Methyltransferase are involved in BPD development



The use of a methyl transferase specific inhibitor, 5-aza-2′-deoxycytidine, improved survival rate and weight gain in a rat model of hyperoxia-induced bronchopulmonary dysplasia (BPD), as reported by Zhao *et al*. This treatment also increased P16 expression and reduced fibrosis, suggesting that inhibition of methylation may be a target for preventing BPD. **See page 732**