SCREENING FOR ADVERSE PREGNANCY AND CHILDHOOD OUTCOMES

Propositions

1. Maternal early-pregnancy glucose concentrations in the normal range are not related to gestational hemodynamic adaptations or the risks of gestational hypertensive disorders (This thesis)
2. Young and advanced maternal age is associated with alterations in uterine artery flow measures (This thesis)
3. Maternal characteristics at the start of pregnancy can be used in screening for pregnancies at risk of gestational hypertension or preeclampsia (This thesis)
4. Universal third trimester ultrasound may nearly double identification of pregnancies at risk of common adverse outcomes, and may therefore help reduce neonatal morbidity and mortality (This thesis)
5. Using maternal lifestyle characteristics in customized birth weight charts does not improve identification of newborns at risk of short- and long-term adverse outcomes (This thesis)
6. An optimal maternal age at the start of pregnancy exists and increasing awareness of this phenomenon in the general population could help improving maternal and child health outcomes (C. Bellieni, J. Family Reprod Health, 2016)
7. High-income countries facing COVID-19 outbreaks need to take reasoned risks and act more decisively, abandoning fears of negative short-term public and economic consequences that may follow from restricting public freedoms (Lancet, 2020)
8. Using race to predict different health-outcomes is problematic for more reasons than one (P. Le, 2019)
9. Many research institutes and funders consider only certain authorship positions as relevant contributions to academic endeavours, which potentially increases competition, discourages collaboration and can lead to secrecy around ideas (P. Byass, Lancet Glob Health, 2018)
10. Better put a strong fence 'round the top of the cliff, than an ambulance down in the valley (The ambulance down the valley, Joseph Malins, 1895)
11. So often in life, things that you regard as an impediment turn out to be great, good fortune (Ruth Bader Ginsburg)

Jan Erkamp, February 3rd 2021