

Fetal and Infant Origins of Childhood Asthma

The Generation R Study

1. The association between a low birth weight and asthma symptoms can be explained by gestational age. (*This thesis*)
2. Accelerated weight gain in early infancy is associated with later development of asthma and asthma symptoms. (*This thesis*)
3. Children from mothers with psychological distress during gestation have an increased risk of asthma symptoms. (*This thesis*)
4. A longer duration and more exclusive breastfeeding are associated with a reduced risk of asthma symptoms in childhood. (*This thesis*)
5. Higher levels of air pollution are associated with an increased risk of asthma symptoms in children, particularly if they are also exposed to tobacco smoke. (*This thesis*)
6. Viral infections in susceptible subjects at a critical window during their development enhance allergic sensitization and the chronic changes in airway function and -structure that are characteristic of asthma. (*FD Martinez. JACI 2011*)
7. If phenotypes are meant to represent 'real' underlying disease entities rather than superficial features, there is a need for validation and harmonization of the definition of phenotypes. (*BD Spycher et al. Clin exp Allergy 2010*)
8. Each year, millions of women and children die from preventable causes. These are not mere statistics. They are people with names and faces. Their suffering is unacceptable in the 21st century. (*Ban Ki Moon, WHO report - global strategy for women's and children's health 2010*)
9. Prevention of obesity in children should start at the prenatal and early postnatal periods of their mothers. (*MW Gillmann et al. N Engl J Med 2013*)
10. Participating in social development projects and scientific research increases the quality of life of medical students. (*P Tempski et al. BMC Med Educ 2012*)
11. Wat je vandaag moet doen, moet je doen zoals je morgen denkt dat je het had moeten doen. (*Toon Hermans*)