

ADIPS ASM Report

The 2010 Annual ADIPS conference was held at the Sydney Convention Centre on 3-4 September.

Below are summaries of some of the highlights of the conference including summaries of presentations from guest speaker Professor Ute Schaefer-Graf from Berlin.

Professor Ute. Schaefer-Graf demonstrated remarkable stamina and presented twice, to a packed crowd with standing room only. She discussed the long term outcomes of newborns from diabetic pregnancies and the influences of the intrauterine vs postnatal environment, discussing data showing that by the age of 8 years, children born to a diabetic pregnancy are more obese, hypertensive and have worse lipid profiles compared to their peers. This is complicated by an association with parental BMI (both maternal and paternal). Professor Schaefer-Graf also discussed intrauterine growth, and the titrating of glycaemic control to fetal growth, relaxing levels for the growth restricted fetus and using tighter glucose targets with a fetus with abdominal circumference > 75th centile.

Another highlight of the conference was the presentation by Professor Susan Clarke from the Garvan Institute. She explored the research area of epigenetics and all of us came away with a much greater comprehension of this increasingly important field.

Dr Glynis Ross and A/Prof Jeff Flack both elaborated on the new IADPSG criteria for the diagnosis of diabetes in pregnancy, detailing the new definitions including a category of 'Overt Diabetes in pregnancy' (fasting PG \geq 7.0 mmol/L or HbA_{1c} level \geq 6.5% or random PG \geq 11.1 mmol/l). The new criteria also strongly suggest testing women at the first prenatal visit for fasting PG, random PG or HbA_{1c} with this being a universal or selective measure depending on the local population. Jeff then examined the local work load implications if the IADPSG recommendations are adopted. It is anticipated that clinical load would increase by 20-30%. For a full discussion see ANZJOG 2010 Oct;50(5):439-43.

There were many other quality presentations making our annual conference very successful. Delegates departed on a high note looking forward to the 2011 conference in Brisbane.

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