

Does the child's risk for type-1 diabetes increase if the mother smokes during pregnancy?

If the child is exposed to tobacco smoking as a fetus, does the risk for developing type-1 diabetes (T1D) increase even if you consider the genetic risk profile?

All children born in Scania who develop T1D are registered in the Skåne study (1999-2005) and the Better Diabetes Diagnosis study (2005 and forward). We identified all children with T1D born between 1999 and 2005. For each case we identified three controls, matched for the genetic risk profile (HLA-type) and birth year, from the prospective study cohort Diabetes Prediction in Skåne, where all children born in Scania between 2000 and 2004 were invited to participate. Data on the mothers smoking habits during pregnancy was retrieved from a regional birth register, Perinatal Revision South (PRS).

We found that children exposed to smoking during fetal life had a higher risk of developing T1D compared to the children with similar genetic risk but who had not been exposed to tobacco smoke.

Since around 6 % of pregnant women smoke during pregnancy today, with little signs of declining numbers, it is of importance to study potential health consequences for their children.

Link to abstract:

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=10.1007%2Fs10654-014-9985-1>

Link to complete article:

<http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs10654-014-9985-1>

Publication:

Maternal smoking during pregnancy and offspring type 1 diabetes mellitus risk: accounting for HLA haplotype. Mattson K, Jönsson I, Malmqvist E, Larsson HE, Rylander L. Eur J Epidemiol 2015 30(3):231-8.

Doi: 10.1007/s10654-014-9985-1

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Funding: SIMSAM Lund (funded by The Swedish Research Council) and METALUND (funded by Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research). DiPiS is supported by the Swedish Research Council, Swedish Childhood Diabetes Foundation, Swedish Diabetes Association, National Institutes of Health, UMAS Fund, the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation, and the Skåne County Council for Research and Development.