GYNEMEDIA

Information and Suggestions from GYNEMED
January edition 2021

PREFACE

Gynemed team send you its best wishes for this New Year!

After this strange 2020, we finally arrive to 2021, this year will be full of hope and promises, our team will be as close as possible to your expectations.

In our first edition 2021, we will introduce our new management controller, Mr. Lennart Reimers, the second part is an article talking about the results of the impact of SARSCoV-2 infections during pregnancy and finally an introduction or our Antigenes products for semen diagnostic.

Your Gynemed Team

New at Gynemed: Mr Lennart Reimers

Mr Lennart Reimers

As of 01.10.2020, Lennart Reimers is taking over responsibility for finances at Gynemed GmbH & Co. KG. As part of the management team, Mr Reimer's tasks will encompass managing the bookkeeping team, carrying out and developing in-house controlling and supporting all departments with well-founded analysis.

After completing his Master of Science in Business Administration at the University of Hamburg, Mr Reimers took on the role of advisor to international executive management at Engel & Völkers.

In this position, and later as Performance and Development Manager at the international franchise and proprietary business, he used a combination of operational challenges in an intense and highly contested sales environment with strategic decision-making processes and negotiations in direct consultation with the board as well as countless internal and external partners across the globe to develop a keen skill for the analysis and evaluation of operational processes as well as market and company conditions.

In his next role in Specialist Business Development & Innovation at IT consulting firm Senacor, he was key to the conception and setting up of a new Sales and Business Development department as well as gaining his first managerial experience. As a fast-growing, international company, Gynemed offers an exciting environment for Mr Reimers in a promising market and in close collaboration with our American parent company Hamilton Thorne Limited.

His experience with internal processes and sales in consulting markets are a welcome addition to our previous team, and one that we hope will enhance our prospects.

Mr Reimers is very much looking forward to applying his expertise for analysis and sales at Gynemed, as well as providing external partners with advice and support.

Pregnancy and SARS-CoV-2 infections in Germany - CRONOS register at UKSH and UK Dresden delivers initial results

Dtsch Arztbl Int 2020; 117:841-2

Coronavirus can infect anyone, even in pregnancy. What impacts this has for mother and child is being studied by researchers within the German Society of Perinatal Medicine (DGPM) in their project 'COVID-19 Related Obstetric and Neonatal Outcome Study in Germany' (CRONOS).

The study bundles expertise from midwives and neonatology in more than 120 German clinics, and is being coordinated by two Directors of Studies, PD Dr Ulrich Pecks, Head of Obstetrics at the University of Schleswig-Holstein at the Kiel campus together with Professor Mario Rüdiger, Director of the Centre for Feto-Neonatal Health at Dresden University Clinic.

The first results from the CRONOS study have now been published by the scientists in the German Medical Journal. To this end, a total of 247 pregnant patients that had tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 were chosen from 65 clinics on 1st October 2020. Obstetrician PD Dr Pecks commented that most pregnant women thankfully had a happy outcome. But the illness must still be taken seriously. 14 women required intensive medical care. 'COVID-19, particularly in pregnancy, is a challenge as the treatment options are limited,' said Dr Pecks. In the meantime, 185 and therefore three quarters of the pregnant patients have given birth; mostly naturally, while 75 women (41 percent) were given Caesarean sections. 'This shows an increase in the frequency of C-sections in the test group compared to the German national average over past years, but still below the levels among pregnant patients in many other countries,' the obstetrician summarised. 'SARS-CoV-2 has an impact on newborns, particularly through increased prematurity,' explains Professor Mario Rüdiger. Within the CRONOS register, 25 children (just over 14 percent) were premature and born before the 38th week of pregnancy. But only around two percent of the newborns tested positive for SARS-Cov-2. In most cases, this infection only resulted in minimal symptoms of illness in the newborn. 'Similar rates are being found in international data. These are relatively reassuring figures. It's important that the mother tries not to infect her newborn after the birth,', says Professor Rüdiger. Even during pregnancy, over 36 percent of pregnant patients said they were completely asymptomatic. Where women did have symptoms, coughing (37.7 percent) or a general feeling of being ill with chills (33.6 percent) were the main culprits. Increased fatigue and tiredness were reported in 27.5 percent of cases, and one in four affected patients reported disruption to their sense of taste and smell. Nausea and dizziness were less common.

'This key study on the consequences of a SARS-CoV-2 infection in pregnancy thankfully shows primarily mild illness without serious consequences for mother or baby,' explains Professor Joachim Thiery, Director of the Medical Faculty at the University of Kiel and member of the UKSH board. 'This study also impressively confirms how professionally clinics throughout Germany are working together during the pandemic, and how quickly important results can be collected and published through university medicine.' Professor Thiery hopes that this exemplary network will remain in place after the pandemic. 'With this kind of study, we will be much better able to understand the SARS-CoV-2 virus and to develop targeted measures for very specific patient groups,', explains Professor Heinz Reichmann, Director of the Medical Faculty at the Technical University of Dresden. It is therefore important to continue collection in the current situation, as this is the only way to check the transferability of international data onto the German situation, and suitably provide tailored recommendations for medical care.

The results on the impact of SARS-CoV-2 infections during pregnancy for Germany correspond with the data recently published by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC evaluated the health data of Americans that tested positive for coronavirus between 22nd January and 3rd October 2020 and displayed symptoms, so that had fallen ill with Covid-19.

The result: 'although the absolute risk for serious illness is low in women, there is an increased risk of a serious case of Covid-19 in pregnant women compared to non-pregnant women of the same age,', claims the study. It is still not possible to definitively assess the impact of SARS-CoV-2 on pregnant patients and newborns in terms of the risk factors of serious maternal consequences and child infections due to the current low case numbers in Germany. 'It is therefore necessary that we continue the German CRONOS register together with our colleagues from the DGPM research network, even if financing is currently not clear,', Professor Rüdiger and Dr Pecks agree.

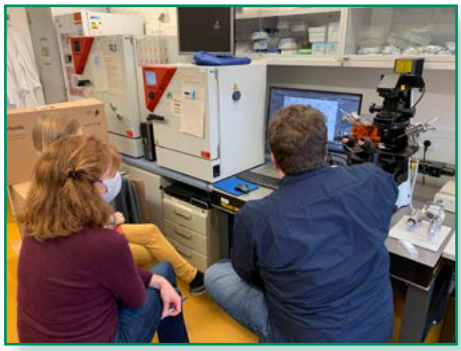
Current data from the CRONOS register, in which 130 clinics are now involved, covering around a quarter of all births, is being regularly published by the DGPM on its website (https://www.dgpm-online.org/gesellschaft/covid-19/).

Gynemed goes wild - installation at the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wild Animal Research

As part of two public tenders, Gynemed supported two research projects at the Institute for Zoo and Wild Animal Research this year.

The Reproduction Management department under the leadership of Professor Hildebrandt carries out various projects on reproductive strategies and reproductive disorders in wild animals caused by humans.

Professor Jewgenow's department focuses on the evolution of reproductive characteristics and



the impact of environmental factors in fertility. We provided Professor Hildebrandt's work group and that of Professor Jewgenow with new micromanipulation work stations.

Micromanipulation work station

Antigenes products for semen diagnostic

Martest

Detection of anti-sperm-antibodies (ASA). Indicates presence of IgG and/or IgA-antibodies on motile sperm cells. Detection with Anti-IgG and Anti-IgA-coated yellow microspheres. A suspected immunological infertility is when 10-39% of motile sperm have adhering latex particles. If 40% or more of the sperm have adhesive latex particles, an immunological infertility is very likely. The direct IgA and IgG test can be carried out only with motile sperm. Semen samples with very low sperm concentration or a small number of motile sperm can lead to erroneous results.

SemenMar - SemenIgA - SemenIgG

SemenLeu

By using hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2) peroxidase-positive leukocytes (neutrophils polymorphic granulocytes) can be stained yellow to brown.

Other cells (sperm, lymphocytes, monocytes, macrophages and multinucleated spermatids) remain unstained (peroxidase-negative). With this kit the seminal fluid is treated with the reagents 1 and 2 in which only peroxidase stain positive cells remain brown. These cells can be identified with a phase contrast microscope.

SemenLeu

LEGAL NOTE

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