

# IUGR

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## IUGR

- intrauterine growth restriction
- intrauterine growth retardation

## Two basics of fetal growth

- growth potential :
  - genetics
  - environmental factors (viruses, radiation, epigenetics)
- growth support:
  - transplacental nutrients transport
  - hormones (growth hormone, fetal insulin)

## The dynamics of fetal growth

- in the first half of pregnancy, placenta is growing significantly faster than fetus  
(20 weeks  $\Rightarrow$  3x heavier)
- in the second half of pregnancy, fetus is growing faster, and the term baby is 7x heavier than placenta

## The dynamics of fetal growth

- in the first half of pregnancy qualitative component of fetal growth dominates over quantitative
- potential to build (quantitative growth) is assigned to the placenta
- in the second half of pregnancy, the fetus "compensates" the quantity
- Physiological deceleration of fetal growth  $\Rightarrow$  after 38 weeks

## The dynamics of fetal growth

- first 16. weeks  $\Rightarrow$  hyperplastic fetal growth
- 16. – 24 weeks  $\Rightarrow$  combination of hyperplastic (decelerating) & hypertrophic type of growth (accelerating)
- after 24. weeks hypertrophic type of fetal growth dominates

## The dynamics of fetal growth

- ~ 26 weeks - fetus begins to secrete its own insulin (the active form - an inactive form is proven in the first quarter)
- until then, its growth is predominantly genetically determined
- since then, its growth mostly depends on the supply of glucose and insulin dependent metabolism

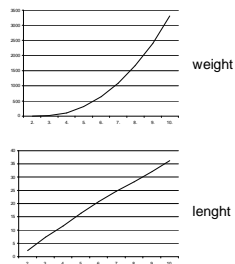
Cararach V, Carmona F (1998) Macrosomia: Etiology and Pathogenesis. In: Kurjak A (ed) Textbook of Perinatal Medicine. The Parthenon Publishing Group, London New York, pp.1281-9

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  - 22. weeks = 500g
  - 25. weeks = 800g
  - 28. weeks = 1200g
  - 30. weeks = 1500g
  - 32. weeks = 2000g

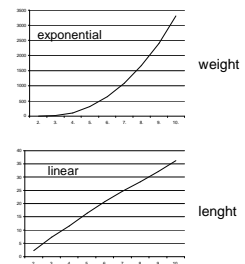
## Normal fetal growth

| months | weight (g) | crown- rump (cm) |
|--------|------------|------------------|
| 2.     | 1          | 2,3              |
| 3.     | 14         | 7,4              |
| 4.     | 105        | 11,6             |
| 5.     | 310        | 16,4             |
| 6.     | 640        | 20,8             |
| 7.     | 1080       | 24,7             |
| 8.     | 1670       | 28,3             |
| 9.     | 2400       | 32,1             |
| 10.    | 3300       | 36,2             |



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## FETAL GROWTH EVALUATION

## BIRTH WEIGHT (*per se*)

- extremely low birth weight (500-999 g)
- very low birth weight (1000-1499 g)
- low birth weight (1500-2499 g)
- normal birth weight (2500-3999 g)
- macrosomia (<4000 s. 4500g)



small / **BIG** ?

## Normal fetal growth (physiological)

- estimated fetal weight, or measured birth weight compared with the population average
- **Percentile values** / tables / curves - distribution in the newborns population
- In regard to the three main factors determining fetal growth:
  - gestational age
  - infant's gender
  - mothers parity

## Percentile tables – population in Split

| gest | n  | PRVOROČNE MJESECI – POROČNE TEŽINE (g) |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    | PRVOROČNE ŽENSKO – POROČNE TEŽINE (g) |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |  |
|------|----|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|----|---------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|--|
|      |    | muškarci                               |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |    | žene                                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |  |
|      |    | 5                                      | 10   | 25   | 50   | 75   | 90   | 95   |      | 5  | 10                                    | 25   | 50   | 75   | 90   | 95   |      |  |  |
| 32   | 3  | 3200                                   | 3300 | 3400 | 3500 | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 3  | 3200                                  | 3300 | 3400 | 3500 | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 |  |  |
| 33   | 4  | 3300                                   | 3400 | 3500 | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4  | 3300                                  | 3400 | 3500 | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 |  |  |
| 34   | 5  | 3400                                   | 3500 | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 5  | 3400                                  | 3500 | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 |  |  |
| 35   | 6  | 3500                                   | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 6  | 3500                                  | 3600 | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 |  |  |
| 36   | 7  | 3600                                   | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 7  | 3600                                  | 3700 | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 |  |  |
| 37   | 8  | 3700                                   | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 8  | 3700                                  | 3800 | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 |  |  |
| 38   | 9  | 3800                                   | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 9  | 3800                                  | 3900 | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 |  |  |
| 39   | 10 | 3900                                   | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 10 | 3900                                  | 4000 | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 |  |  |
| 40   | 11 | 4000                                   | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 11 | 4000                                  | 4100 | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 |  |  |
| 41   | 12 | 4100                                   | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 12 | 4100                                  | 4200 | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 |  |  |
| 42   | 13 | 4200                                   | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 13 | 4200                                  | 4300 | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 |  |  |
| 43   | 14 | 4300                                   | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 14 | 4300                                  | 4400 | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 |  |  |
| 44   | 15 | 4400                                   | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 15 | 4400                                  | 4500 | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 |  |  |
| 45   | 16 | 4500                                   | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 16 | 4500                                  | 4600 | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 |  |  |
| 46   | 17 | 4600                                   | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 17 | 4600                                  | 4700 | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 |  |  |
| 47   | 18 | 4700                                   | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 | 18 | 4700                                  | 4800 | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 |  |  |
| 48   | 19 | 4800                                   | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 | 5500 | 19 | 4800                                  | 4900 | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 |  |  |
| 49   | 20 | 4900                                   | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 | 5500 | 5600 | 20 | 4900                                  | 5000 | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 | 5500 |  |  |
| 50   | 21 | 5000                                   | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 | 5500 | 5600 | 5700 | 21 | 5000                                  | 5100 | 5200 | 5300 | 5400 | 5500 | 5600 |  |  |

Rođe D i sur: Porodne težine i duljine novorođenčadi u Splitu. Oporavnost razvijanja vlastitih referentnih vrijednosti za ocjenjivanje fetalnog rasta. Gynaecci Perinatol 2005;14:66-74.

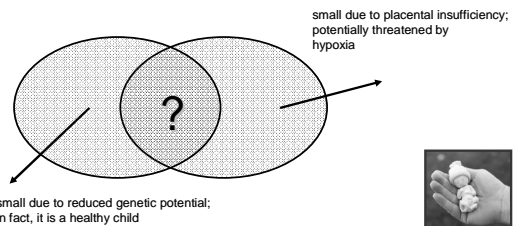
## Normal / altered fetal growth

- 10. – 90. centile – normal – **expected growth**
- <10. centile = hypotrophy – Small for gestational age (SGA)
- >90. centile = hipertrophy – Large for gestational age (LGA)
- SGA – the smallest 10% of the population
- LGA – the biggest 10% of the population



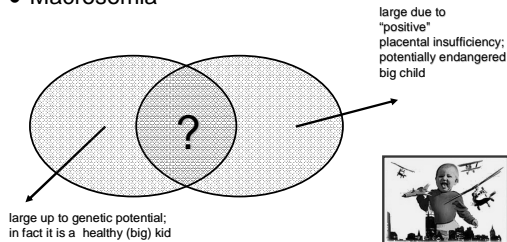
## SGA

- Intrauterine growth restriction / retardation (IUGR)
- IUGR : SGA



## LGA

- LGA – hypertrophy
- Macrosomia



## SGA - IUGR

- conditions associated with SGA / IUGR:
  - chromosomopathy
  - genetic syndromes
  - viral infection of the first part of pregnancy
- preeclampsia
- disturbed placentation and inadequately developed placenta



## LGA

- conditions associated with LGA:
  - DM
  - hydrops fetus



## OBESSE / undernourished



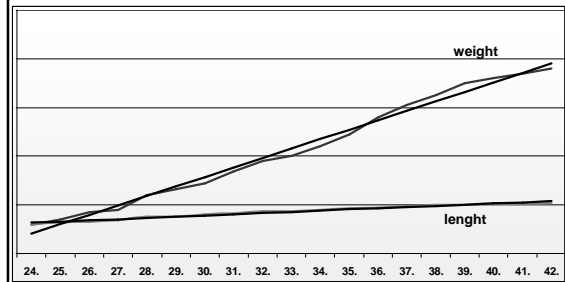
birth weight  
:  
birth length

symmetrically : asymmetrically

skinny

obese

## DYNAMICS OF FETAL WEIGHT AND LENGTH (through pregnancy)



PONDERAL INDEKS ( g/cm<sup>3</sup> )  
Rohrer's index

$$PI = 100 \times \frac{\text{birth weight (g)}}{\text{birth length}^3 \text{(cm)}}$$


The question of all questions  
related to IUGR!

## What is actually important? ?

- the size (weight /length) (what we can not control / change)

**or !?!**

- possible fetal distress (hypoxia) (what we can not control / change too , but we can *take the baby out* if the situation gets out of control



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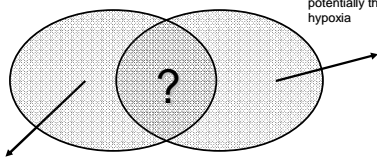
- possible fetal distress (hypoxia) (what we can not control / change too , but we can *take the baby out* if the situation gets out of control

+ SGA = IUGR




## SGA

- Intrauterine growth restriction / retardation (IUGR)
- IUGR : SGA




small due to placental insufficiency; potentially threatened by hypoxia

small due to reduced genetic potential; in fact, it is a healthy child



## HOW TO KNOW IF IT IS IUGR OR JUST A SGA ?

SGA normal growth ~ IUGR ~ ponderal index LGA



Is it intrauterine undernourished?

## What is actually important? ?


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SGA

**or !?!**

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+ SGA = IUGR



## The important question:

Is the fetus at risk ?  
How does the fetus feel?

Ultrasound biometry only provides an answer to the question: "How does the fetus look ?"

morphology vs.  physiology

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(dys) morphology vs. (patho) physiology

US:  
- fetal growth  
- EFW  
- Symmetry  
- nutritional placental insufficiency

US, doppler, CTG, &/or ?  
- respiratory placental insufficiency

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How does the fetus feel?

Ultrasound biometry only provides an answer to the question: "How does the fetus look ?"

(dys) morphology vs. (patho) physiology

## The important question!

Is the fetus at risk ?  
How does the fetus feel?

How can we know if the fetus is in hypoxia & are there any compensatory mechanisms activated?

Placental respiratory insufficiency:

1. compensated stage
2. sub (de)compensated stage
3. decompensated stage

## Fetal hypoxia distress pathophysiology ?

### FETAL SIZE:

- Nutritional always develops before respiratory placental insufficiency (if it is the cause of IUGR-a)

### ULTRASOUND \_ GOLD STANDARD

- Pregnant women feels less and different fetal movement
- Fetus is resting / saving oxygen / slowing it's metabolism

### CTG

- oscillations  $\downarrow$ , accelerations  $\downarrow$ ; later  $\Rightarrow$  deceleration (spontaneous or DIP II.) Sign of hypoxia of the brain and heart

### DOPPLER

- Brain sparing effect - centralization - a. umbilical and a. cerebri media
- more blood (O<sub>2</sub>) to brain, heart and suprarenal glands & less blood (O<sub>2</sub>) to all other organs and rest of the body (legs, hands, ...)

AMNIOSCOPY: green / meconial amniotic fluid – (Intestine spasms in relative hypoxia during brain sparing effect (expected reaction of any muscle to hypoxia))

### ULTRASOUND AMNIOTIC FLUID - oligohydramnios

- Kidney is extremely stupid! Whenever (for any reasons) is the blood flow to kidney reduced, it decreases the production of urine. Kidney always „thinks“ that the organism is in hypovolemia, and concentrates the urine reducing diuresis.

### BIOPHYSICAL PROFILE - "cumulative score"

# So, what it is IUGR?



Thank you!