Masterclasses

M12.1 Diagnosis Before Birth: For Mothers and for Babies

10:45 Theatre 2

Gestational Age Specific Thyroid Function Test Reference Intervals – Controversies and Solutions *Tam WH*

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Thyroid dysfunction is the second most common endocrine condition encountered in pregnancy. Overt hyper- or hypothyroidism is associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes such as miscarriage, intrauterine growth restriction, preterm delivery and pre-eclampsia. Subclinical hypothyroidism during pregnancy is also associated with impairment of fetal brain development and could result in lower IQ. However, there are still questions and controversies in screening for subclinical hypothyroidism and thyroid antibodies and their management.

Thyroid hormone levels change during pregnancy related to the change in hCG level, increase in the demand and binding globulin. Most international guidelines advise to use trimester specific reference range for the interpretation of thyroid function test (TFT) during pregnancy. However, TFT reference ranges vary among different platform and populations. Diagnosis of subclinical thyroid dysfunction could be difficult and challenging.

This presentation will cover preliminary work on the project of gestational age specific TFT for Hong Kong population for different platforms, highlight some local experience in the management of thyroid dysfunction in pregnancy illustrated with some case examples.