

2015 ADS Skip Martin Early Career Fellowship

Postprandial triglycerides in diabetes in pregnancy: A pilot study



Dr Helen Barrett

Women with diabetes mellitus in pregnancy still experience higher rates of maternal and infant morbidity compared to women without diabetes including preeclampsia, macrosomia and birth complications. Glycaemic control is clearly central, but normal pregnancy glucose levels are lower than those usually achieved by women with diabetes. Attempting to achieve these normoglycaemic pregnant glucose levels places women at increased risk of hypoglycaemia. This raises the question of what other avenues we can explore to further improve pregnancy outcomes for women with diabetes. Other aspects of maternal metabolism are abnormal in the setting of diabetes mellitus in pregnancy, and maternal lipids offer a potential therapeutic target. Elevated maternal triglycerides are associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes in normal pregnancy and in pregnancies complicated by diabetes mellitus. The aim of this study is to investigate late pregnancy maternal postprandial triglycerides in the setting of normoglycaemia, and diabetes mellitus.