



LaboCita
ANALYSES MÉDICALES

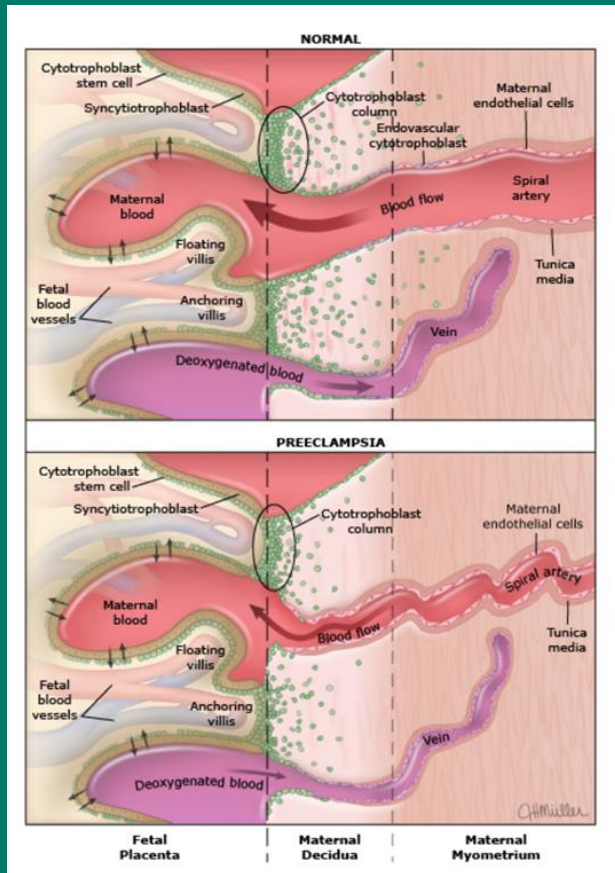
SCREENING OF PREECLAMPSIA

A good indicator or false hope?

JÉRÔME DE MARCHIN

Service de Biologie Clinique – CHR de la Citadelle

Table of Content



1. Introduction to preeclampsia

2. Screening
3. Diagnosis
4. Prevention
5. Conclusion

Introduction to preeclampsia

- **Definitions and physiopathology**
- Risk factors
- Different clinical forms

Definition



Preeclampsia: Clinical features and diagnosis

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Contributor disclosures

All topics are updated as new evidence becomes available and our [peer review process](#) is complete.

Literature review current through: Apr 2016. | This topic last updated: Jan 18, 2016.

Criteria for the diagnosis of preeclampsia

Systolic blood pressure ≥ 140 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure ≥ 90 mmHg on two occasions at least four hours apart after 20 weeks of gestation in a previously normotensive patient

If systolic blood pressure is ≥ 160 mmHg or diastolic blood pressure is ≥ 110 mmHg, confirmation within minutes is sufficient

and

Proteinuria ≥ 0.3 grams in a 24-hour urine specimen or protein (mg/dL)/creatinine (mg/dL) ratio ≥ 0.3

Dipstick $\geq 1+$ if a quantitative measurement is unavailable

In patients with new-onset hypertension without proteinuria, the new onset of any of the following is diagnostic of preeclampsia:

Platelet count $< 100,000$ /microliter

Serum creatinine > 1.1 mg/dL or doubling of serum creatinine in the absence of other renal disease

Liver transaminases at least twice the normal concentrations

Pulmonary edema

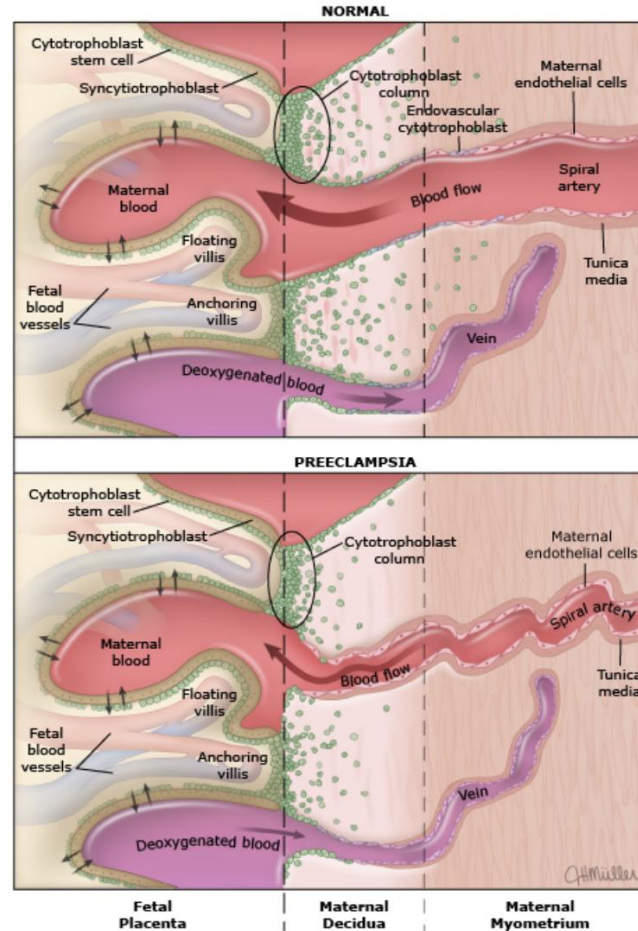
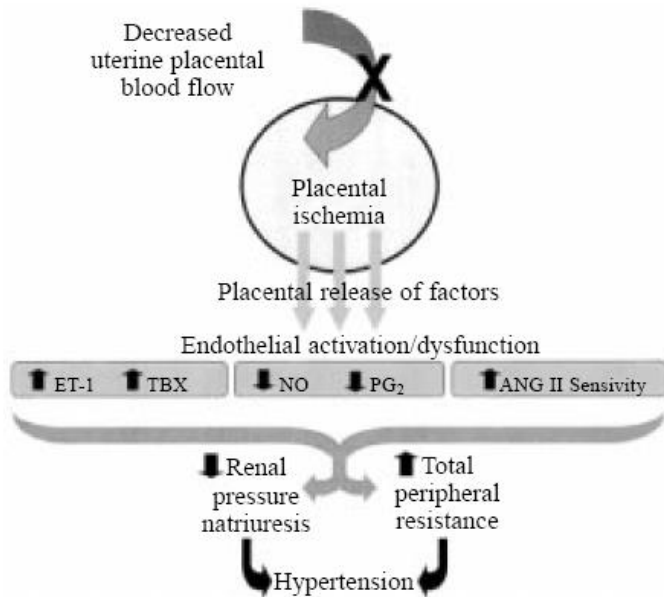
Cerebral or visual symptoms

Adapted from: Hypertension in pregnancy: Report of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists' Task Force on Hypertension in Pregnancy. Obstet Gynecol 2013; 122:1122.



Physiopathology

UpToDate®



Hypothesis for the role of sFlt1 in preeclampsia

Remodeling of maternal spiral arteries does not occur

(?) Placental hypoperfusion

(?) Placental ischemia

sFlt1 increases

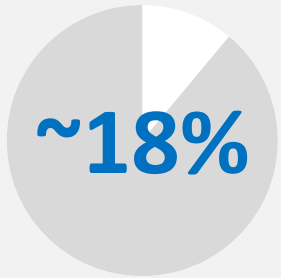
Free VEGF and PlGF decrease

Systemic maternal endothelial dysfunction

Thrombosis of arterioles
Hypertension
Dysfunction of multiple organs,
especially kidney, liver, and brain

Importance of preeclampsia diagnosis

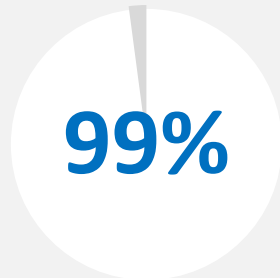
Consequences of PE to mother



of maternal deaths



leading cause of maternal death in U.S.



of deaths occur in low-income countries

6.4 deaths per 10,000 cases PE



Failure
Disseminated intravascular coagulation (DIC)



Stroke (36% of pregnancy-related stroke)
Seizure 1/400 women with PE)
Eclampsia (new onset seizure or coma)
Hypertensive encephalopathy
Retinal detachment
Cortical blindness
Complete blindness



Failure



Hemorrhage
DIC
Hysterectomy

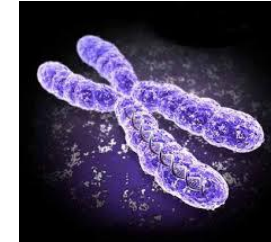
Introduction to preeclampsia

- Definitions and physiopathology
- **Risk factors**
- Different clinical forms

Risk factors

- Factors associated with family history

- Family history in PE
- Disease of polygenic, polymorphic inheritance with variable penetrance (no genetic map: no gene, no loci)
- Anomaly of genomic parental imprinting, permissives genes, disease of mitochondrial DNA, discordant phenotype



- Physiological Factors

- Age
- Ethnicity (African)
- Body mass index (BMI)
- Weight at birth
- Gestational age at birth



Risk factors

- Environmental Factors

- Tabac
- Alcohol, drugs, coffee
- Nutritional factors
- Living conditions (altitude, stress, socio-economic)
- Seasonal variations
- Physical Activity



- Immunological Factors

- Nulliparity
- « primipaternity »
- Time between 2 pregnancies
- Exposure to semen
- Medical history of early miscarriage

- Factors associated with the pregnancy

- Multiple pregnancies
- Fetal malformation
- Urinary tract infection
- Gestational diabetes

Introduction to preeclampsia

- Definitions and physiopathology
- Risk factors
- **Different clinical forms**

Different clinical forms

- Eclampsia
- HELLP Syndrome
- Placental abruption
- Intrauterine growth restriction
- Intrauterine fetal death
- Late miscarriage (no clear reason)

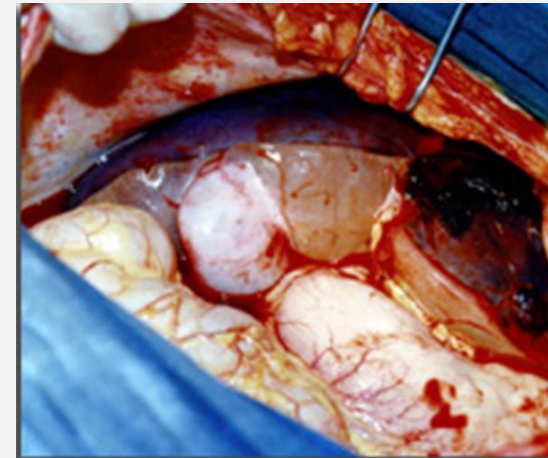
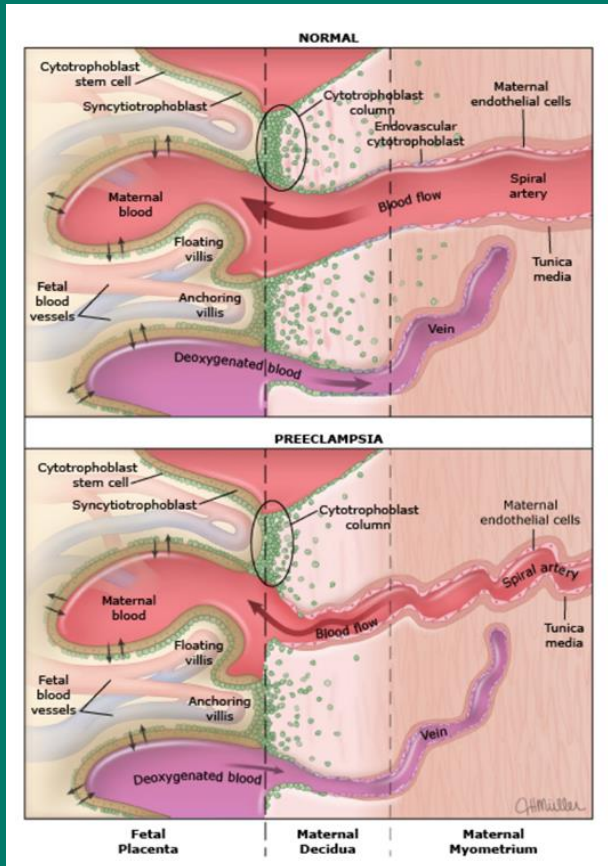


Table of Content



1. Introduction to preeclampsia

2. Screening → 1st trimester

3. Diagnosis

4. Prevention

5. Conclusion

Inversed Pyramid

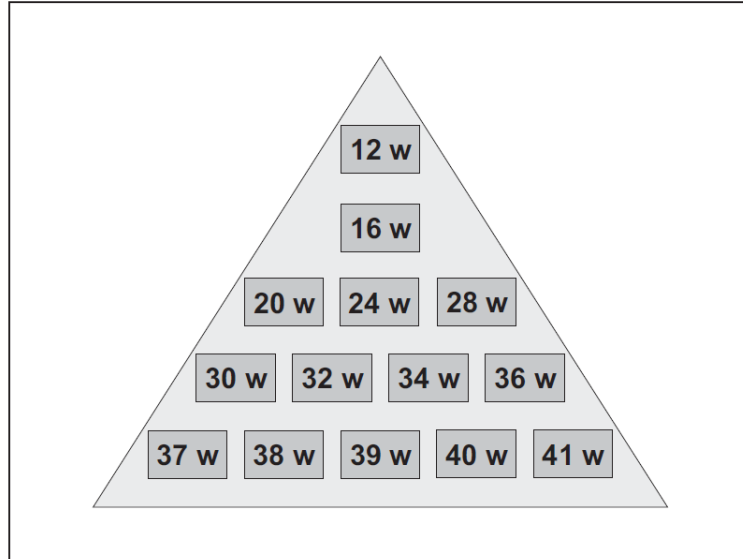


Fig. 1. Pyramid of traditional prenatal care established in 1929.
w = Weeks.

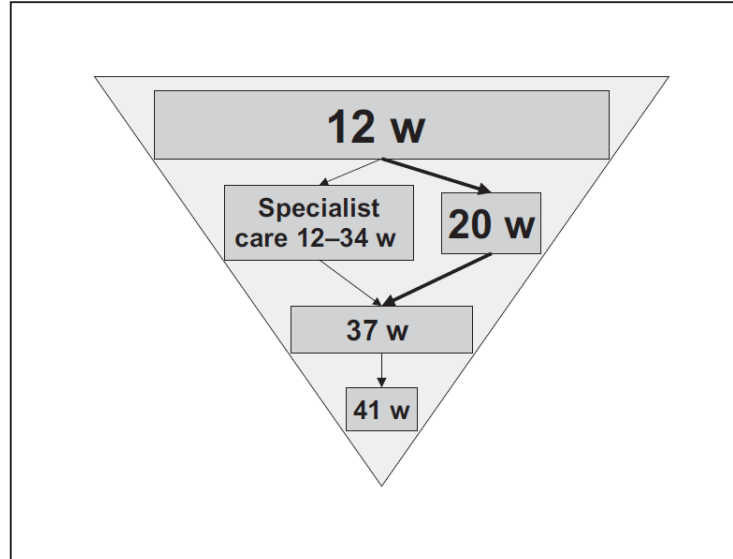


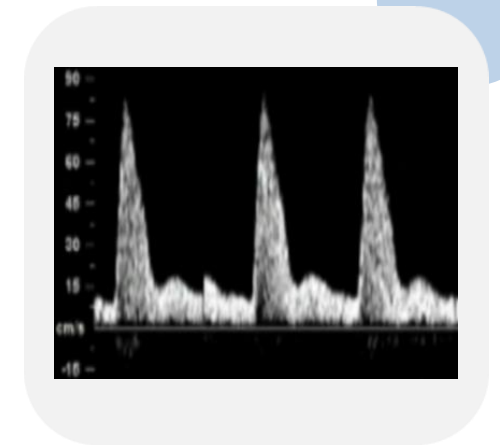
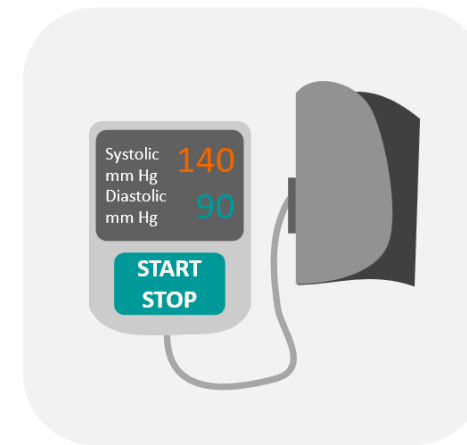
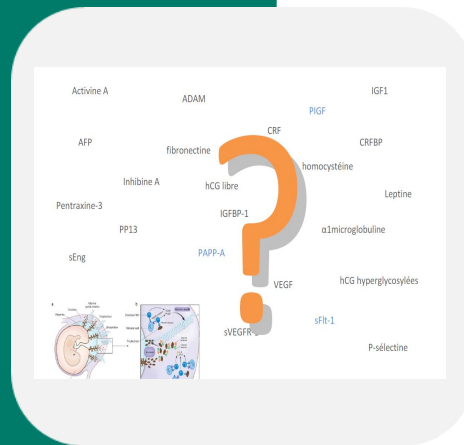
Fig. 2. Proposed new pyramid of prenatal care. w = Weeks.

➤ Goal

- Prepare the parents for childbirth
- Optimal follow up of the pregnancy
- Support the decision for childbirth
- Transfer parents to a center MIC/NIC
- Consider in utero treatment

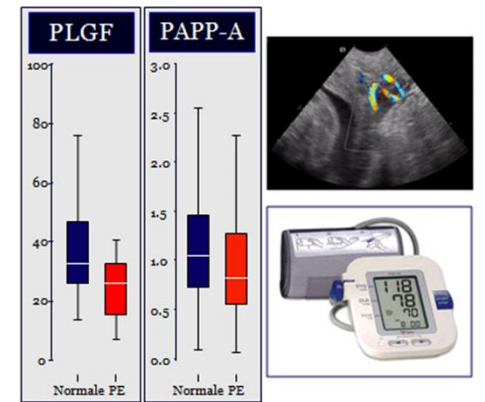
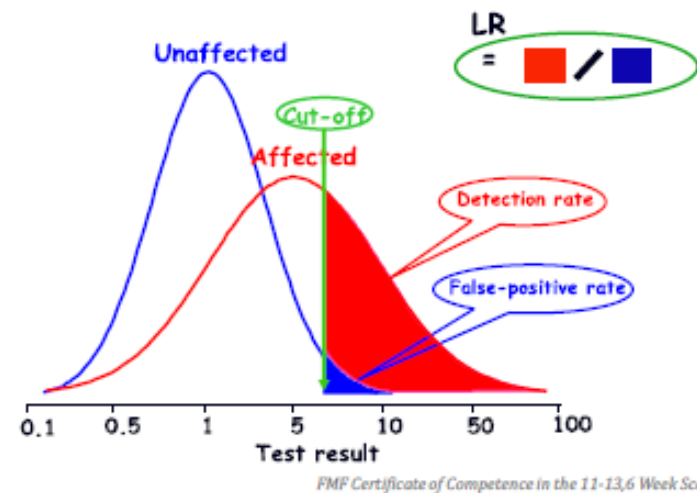
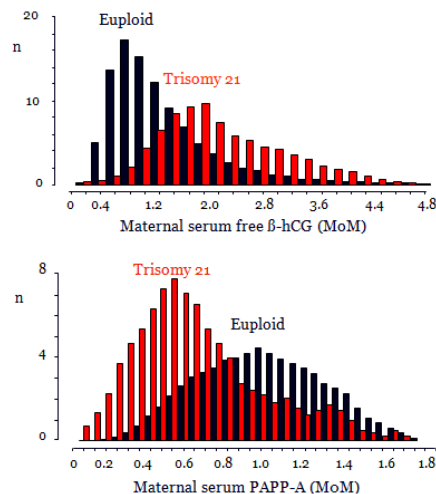
Principle of risk estimation

- Characteristics and maternal « risk factors »
- Biomarkers
- Mean arterial pressure (MAP)
- Uterine artery Doppler

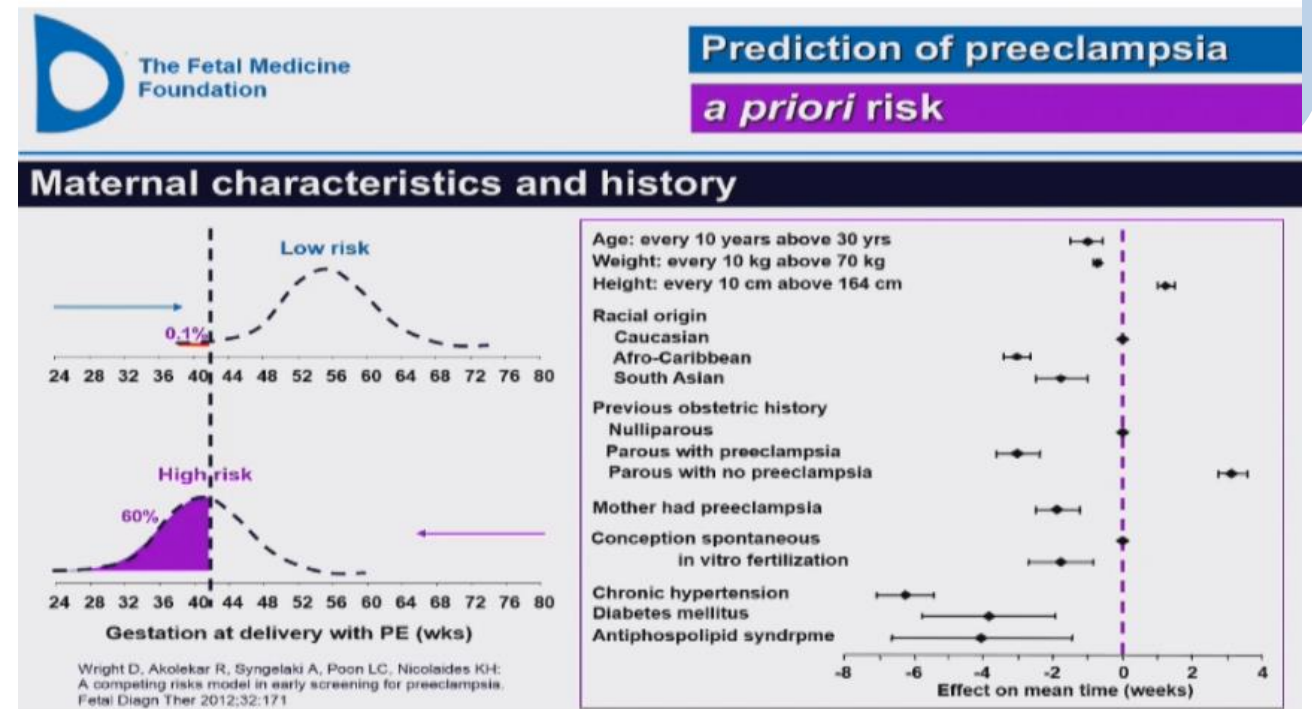
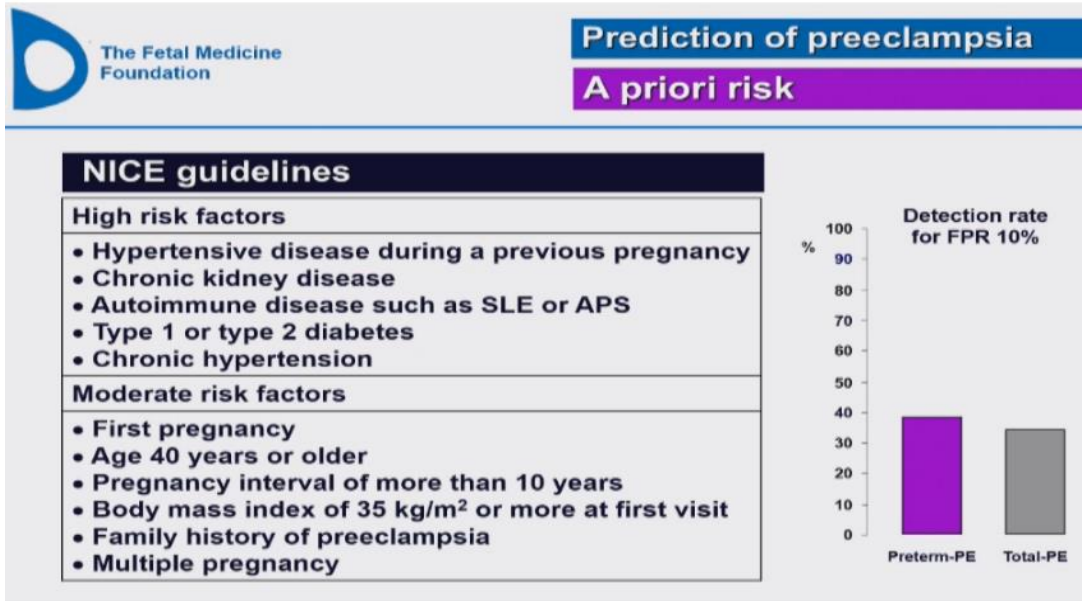


Principle of risk estimation

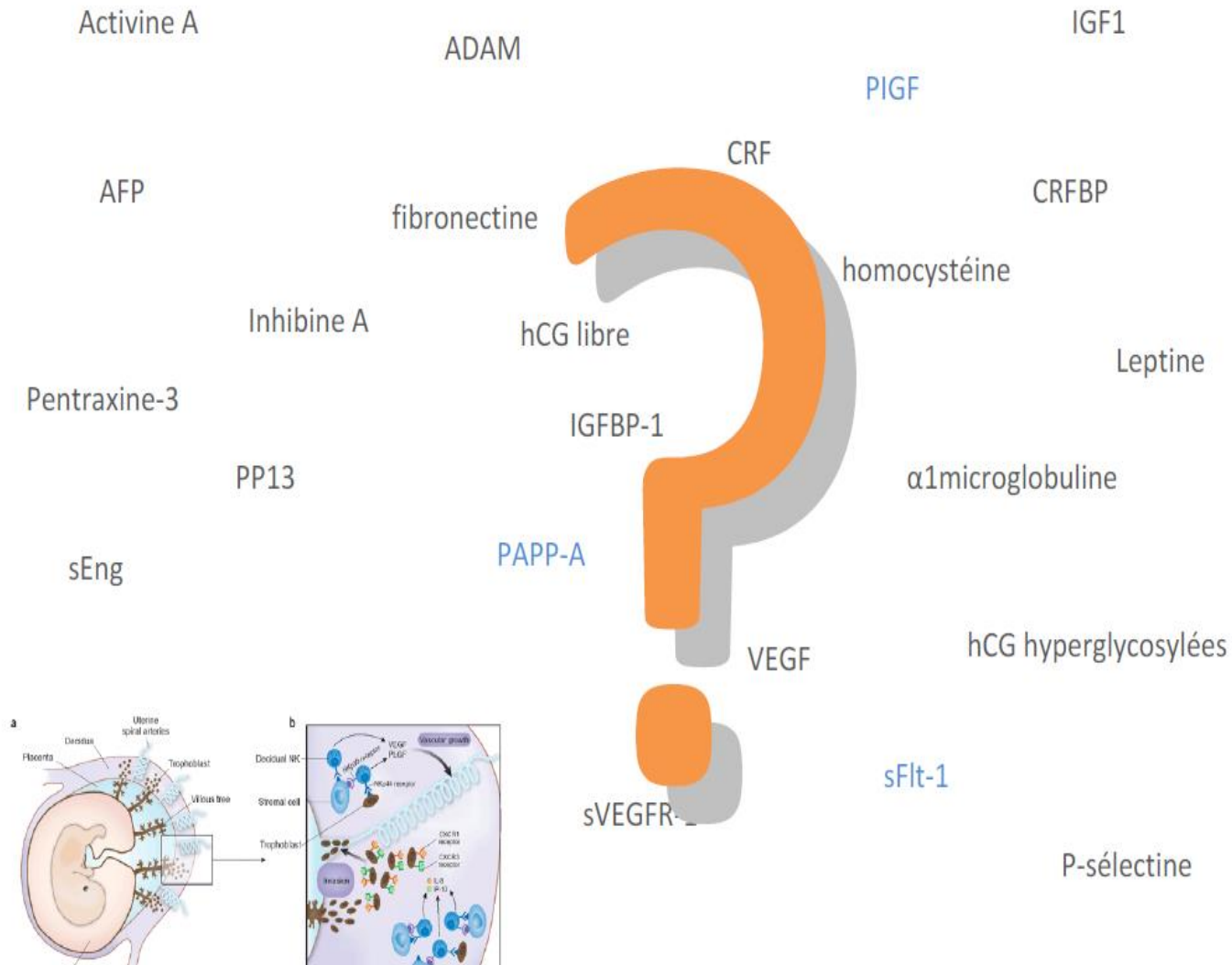
- Prenatal screening for aneuploidy is routine bioclinical practice performed worldwide.
- The same statistical methodology, developed and perfected over more than three decades, has been adapted for screening for pre-eclampsia.
- Each parameter is first converted into a pregnancy-specific MoM (multiple of the median) for the same gestational age, smoking status, maternal weight, ethnicity and method of conception.



Characteristics and maternal « risk factors »



Biomarkers



Biomarkers

- **PIGF:** Placental Growth Factor
- **sFlt-1:** Soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase 1
- **PAPP-A:** Pregnancy Associated Plasma Protein A

PAPP-A

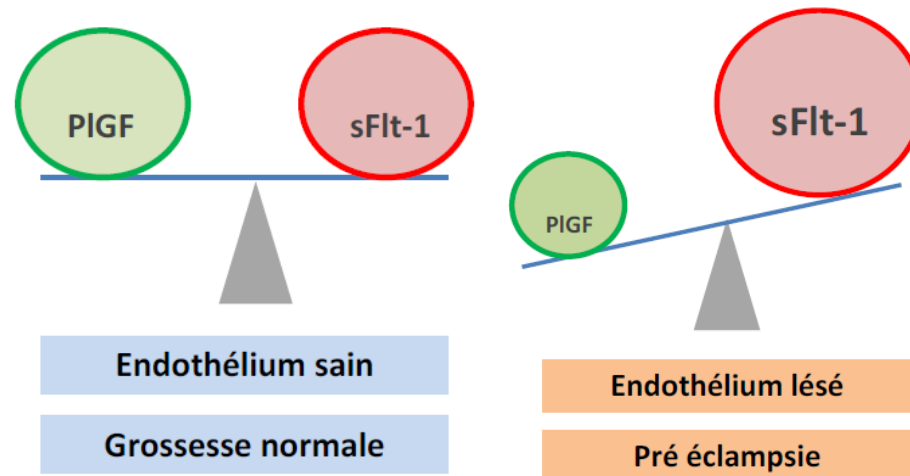
- Pregnancy Associated Plasma Protein-A
 - Macromolecular glycoprotein
 - Produced by the trophoblast
- Regularly ↑ during pregnancy

The concentration is significantly lower for pregnancies at risk of preeclampsia

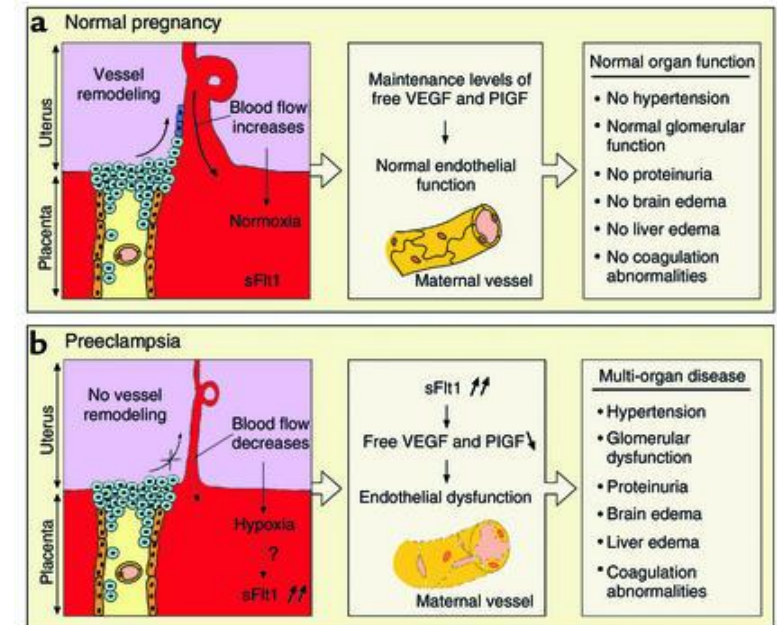
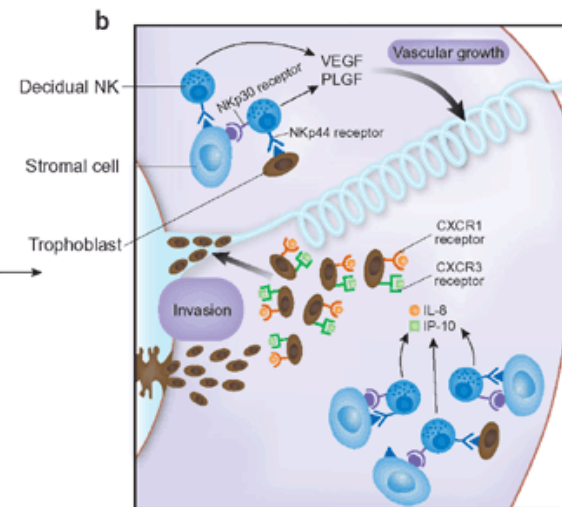
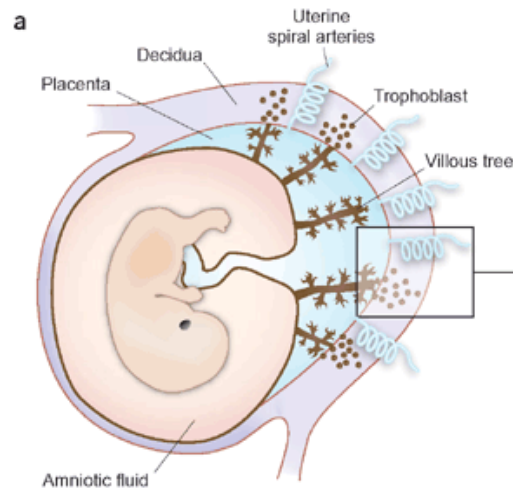
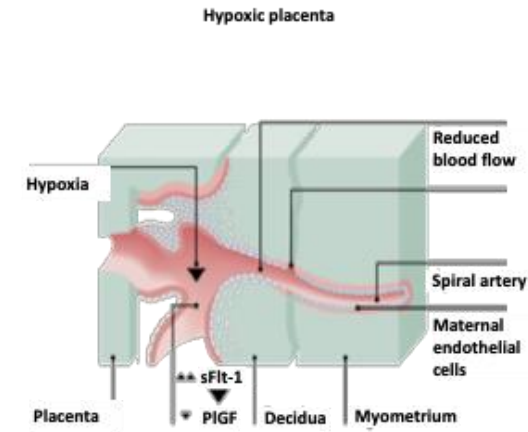
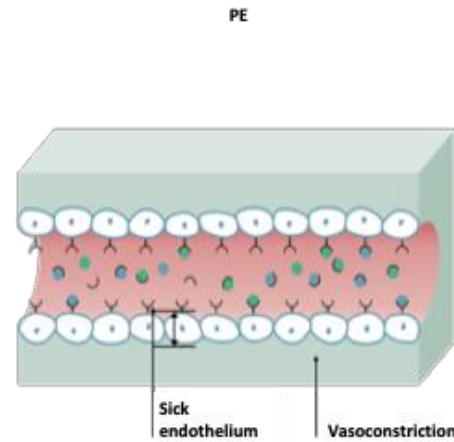
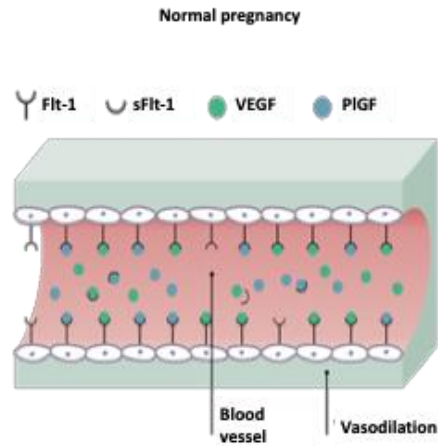


PlGF and sFlt1

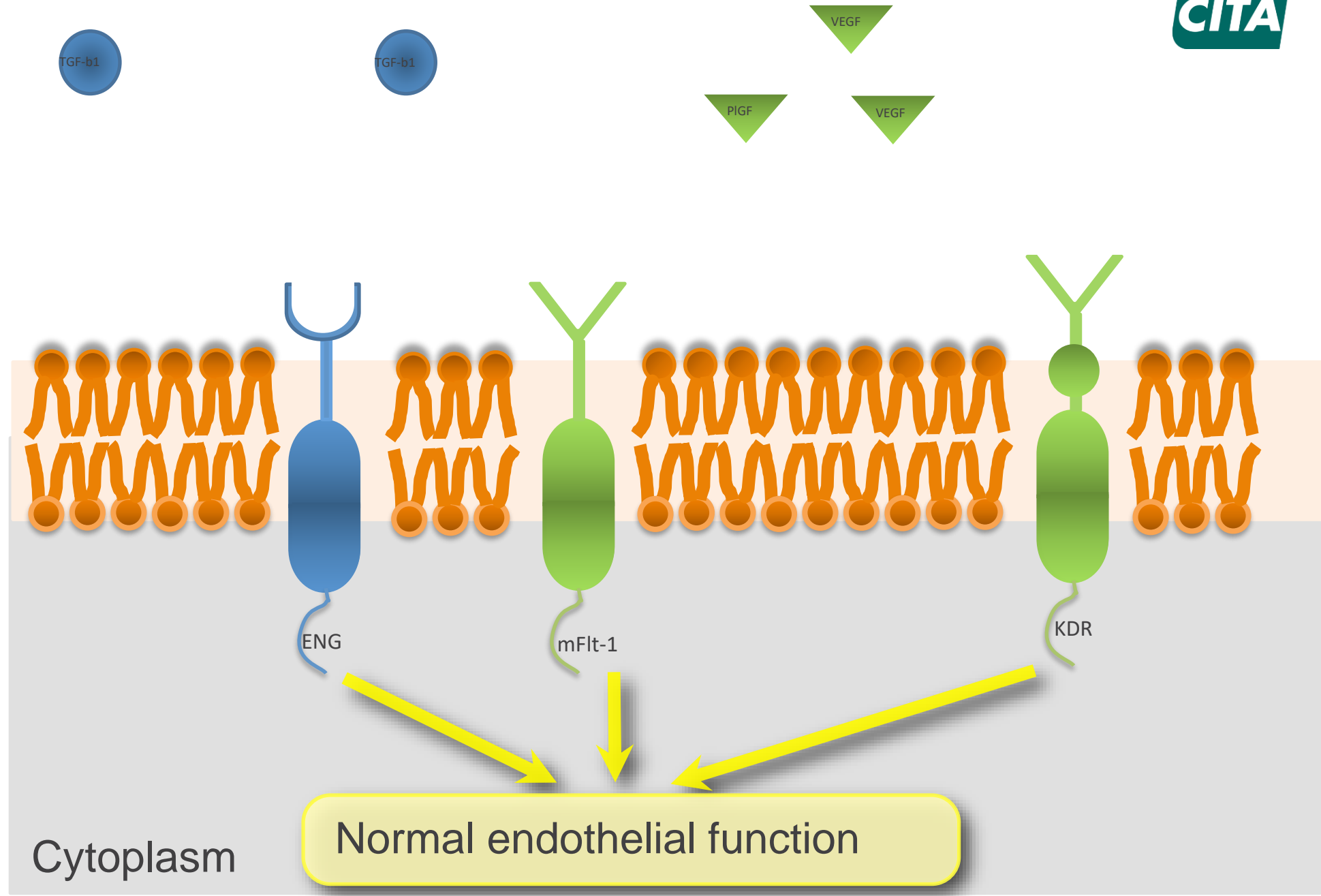
- **PlGF:** Placental Growth Factor
 - Factor pro-angiogenic
 - Participates in the normal functioning of the endothelial cell
- **sFlt-1:** Soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase 1
 - Factor anti-angiogenic



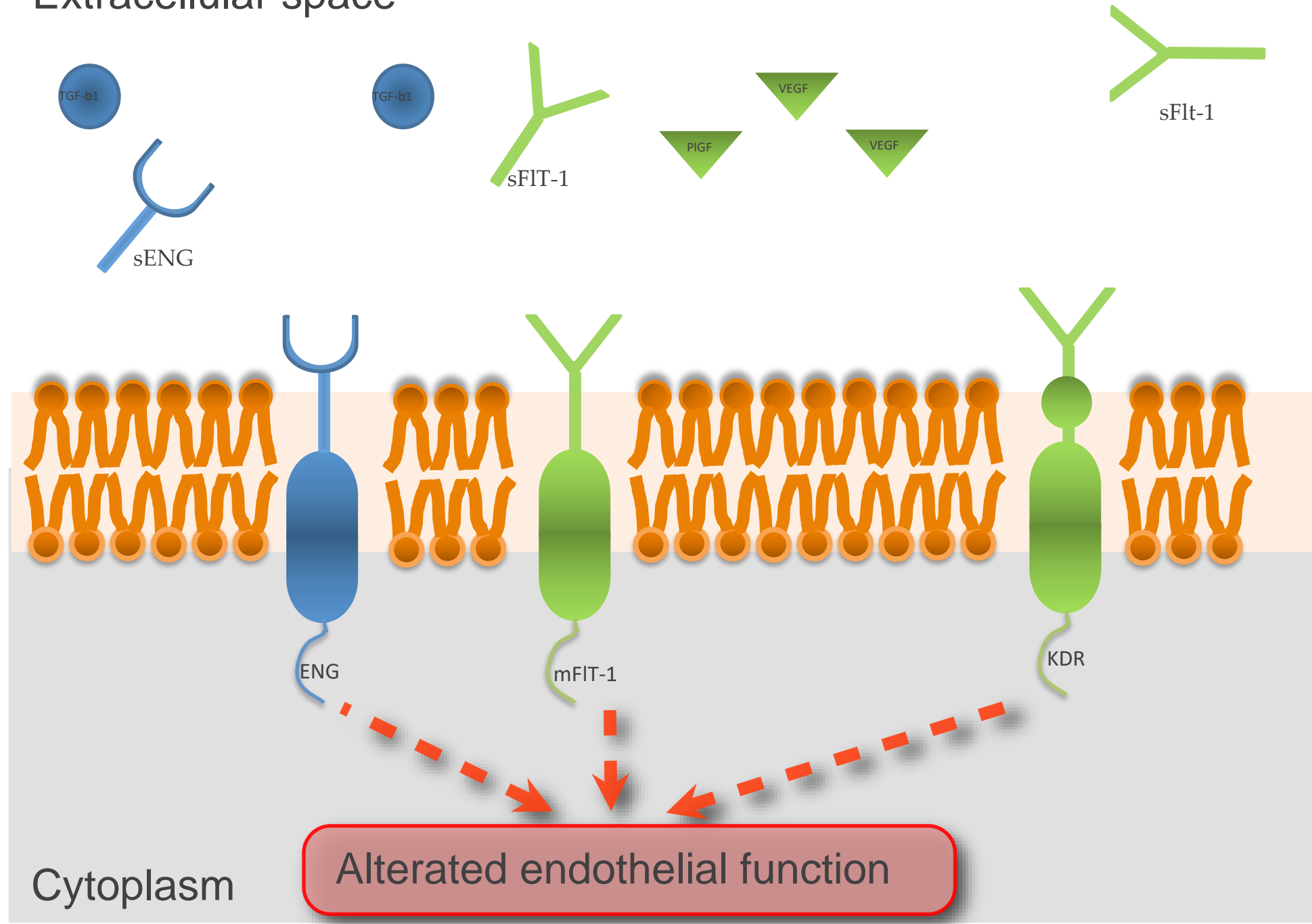
PlGF and sFlt1



Extracellular space

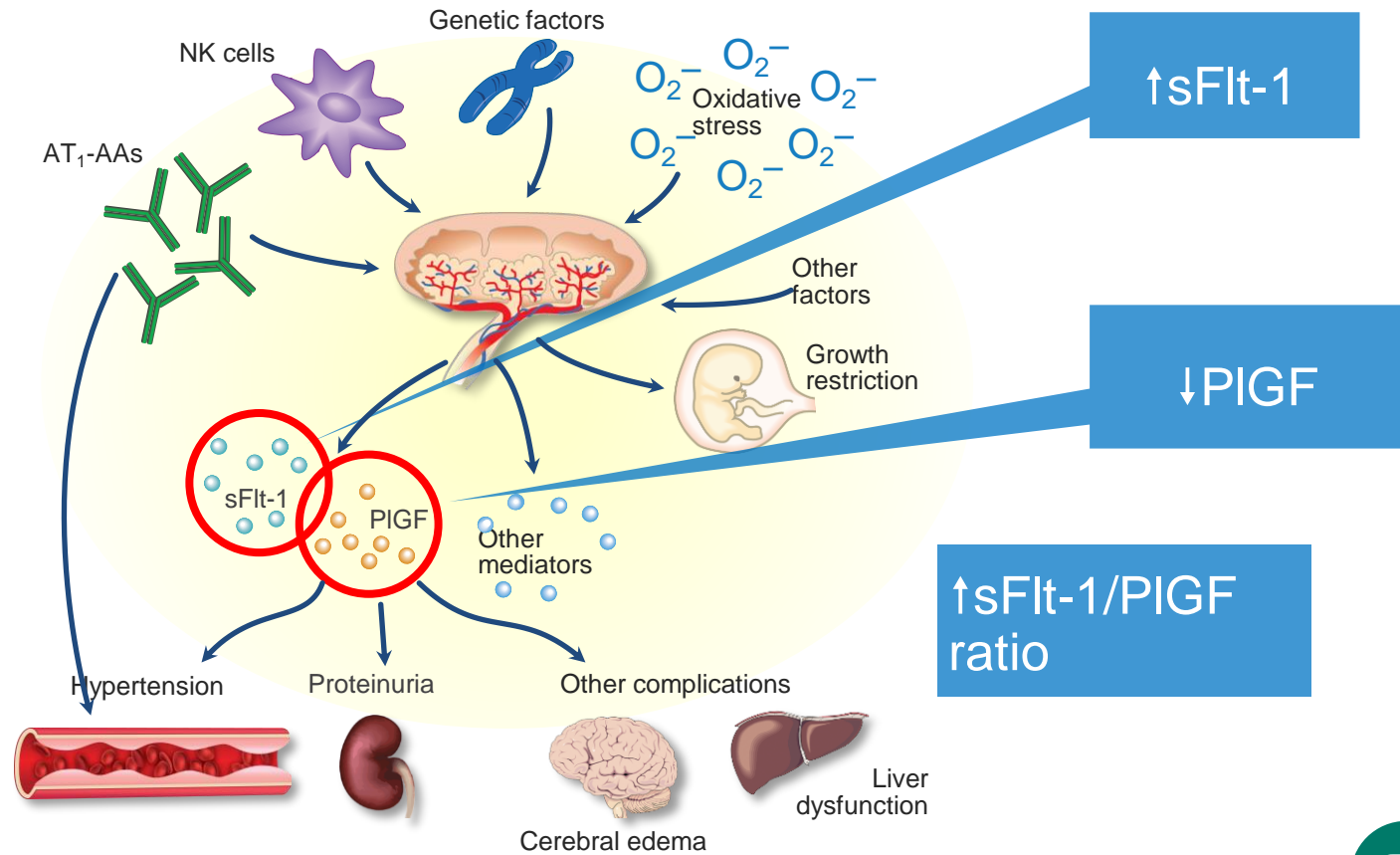


Extracellular space



Early marker and Multi-organ

- The sFlt-1/PIGF ratio is elevated 4–5 weeks before clinical signs of preeclampsia

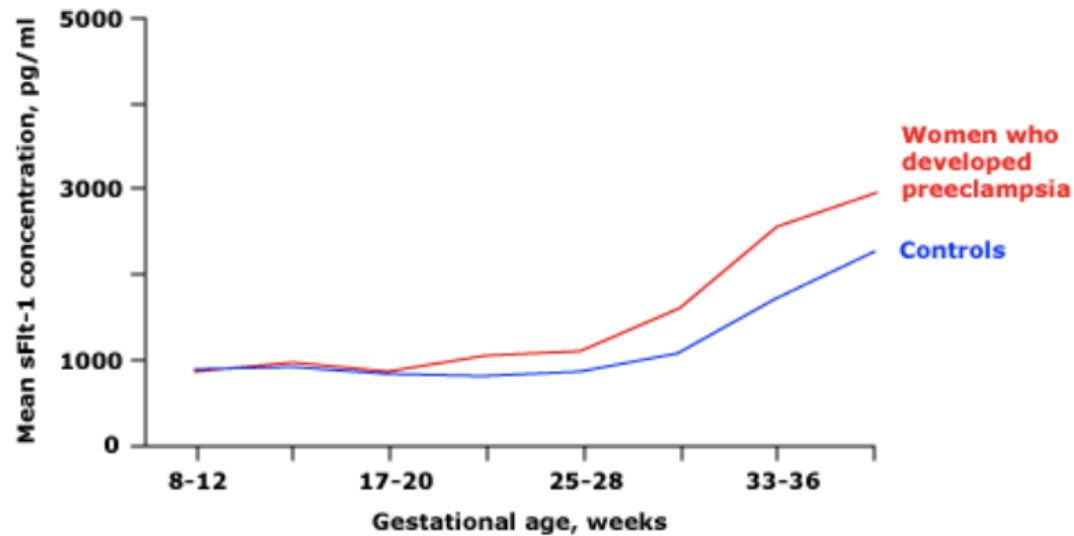


AT₁-AAs = agonistic AT(1) receptor autoantibodies; NK = natural killer
PIGF = placental growth factor; sFlt-1 = soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase-1
VEGF = vascular endothelial growth factor

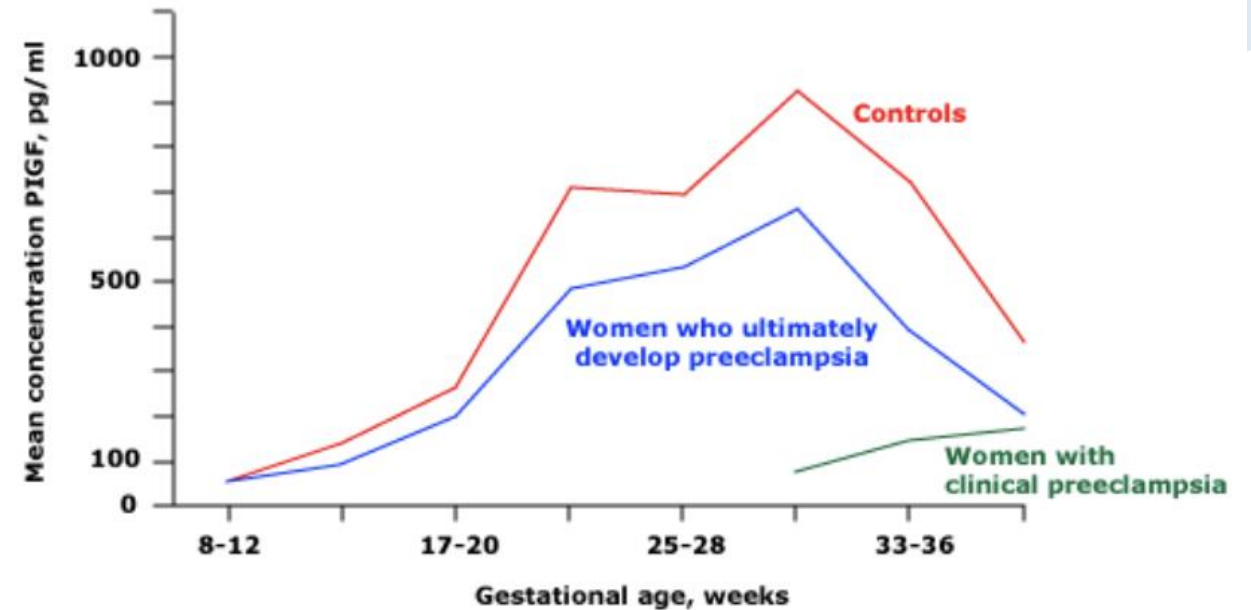
Concentrations of sFlt-1 and PlGF

Imbalances are detectable prior to the onset of PE

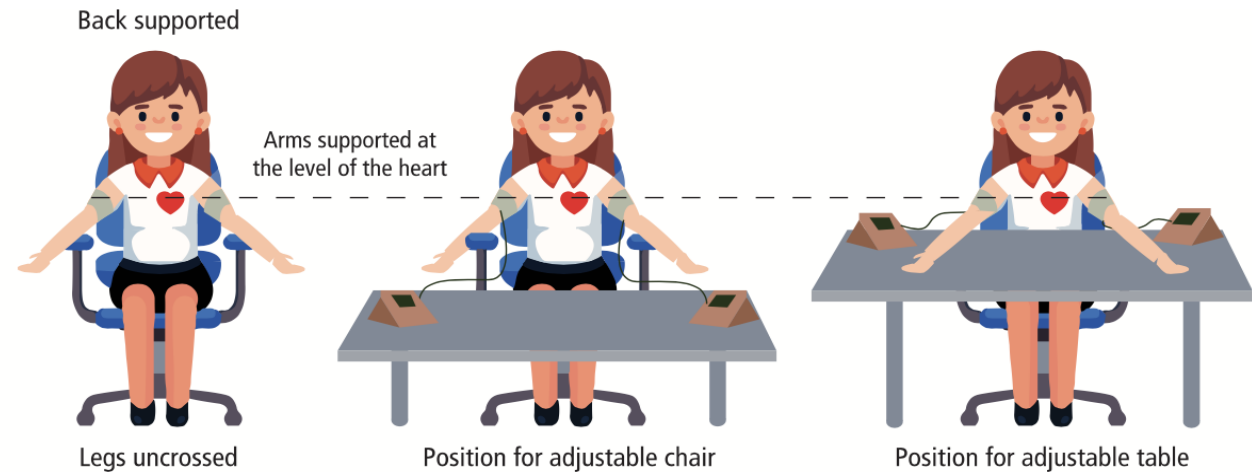
Concentration of sFlt-1 in women who developed preeclampsia and normal controls



Concentration of PlGF in various groups



Mean arterial pressure (MAP)



Correct positioning of a woman for blood pressure measurement. Courtesy of PerkinElmer Life and Analytical Sciences.

Uterine artery Doppler

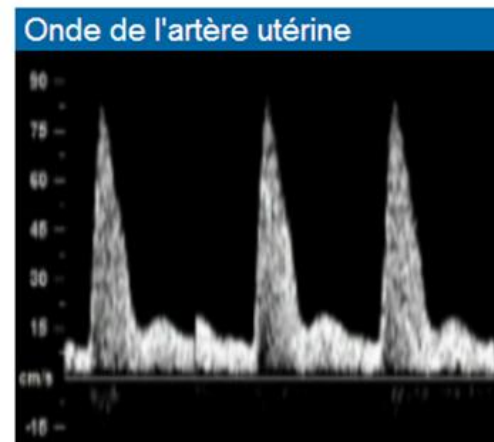
Dépistage de la pré-éclampsie

Doppler des artères utérines

Lors de l'évaluation de l'index de pulsatilité (IP) des artères utérines, l'âge gestationnel doit être de 11^{+0} - 13^{+6} semaines et la LCC de 45-84 mm

PRACTICAL POINTS

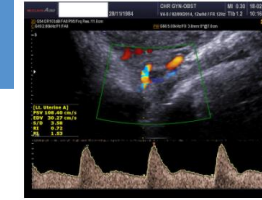
1. Obtain a sagittal section of the uterus and cervical canal. Zoom to the area of interest.
2. Identify the internal cervical os. Gently tilt the transducer from side to side using color flow mapping to identify the uterine arteries. When you apply color Doppler, narrow the color box and adjust the velocity scale and the filter.
3. Apply pulsed wave Doppler with the sampling gate set at 2 mm to cover the whole vessel. Ensure that the angle of insonation is $< 30^\circ$.
4. Record at least three consecutive uniform waveforms.



FMF Audit details

Frederic Chantraine

Uterine Doppler (PE), Feb 18, 2014, Utartery1.jpg

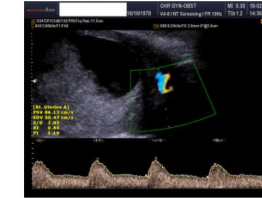


Sagittal section
Insonation angle $< 30^\circ$
Velocity > 60 cm/s
Sample Volume 2.0 mm



Examiner: Walter Ventura Laveriano

Uterine Doppler (PE), Feb 18, 2014, Utartery2.jpg



Sagittal section
Insonation angle $< 30^\circ$
Velocity > 60 cm/s
Sample Volume 2.0 mm



Examiner: Walter Ventura Laveriano

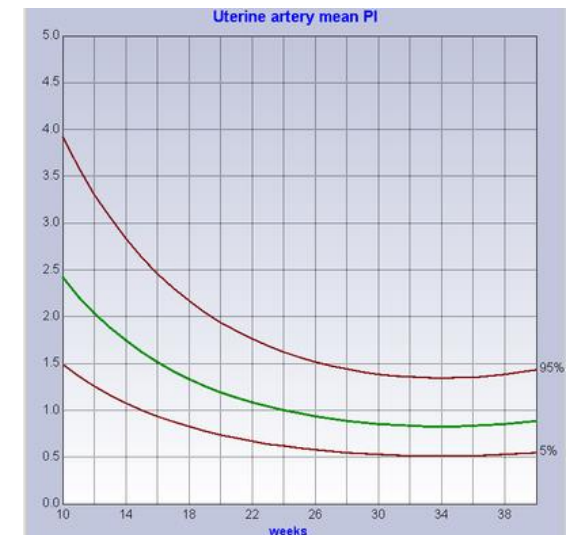
Uterine Doppler (PE), Feb 18, 2014, Utartery3.jpg



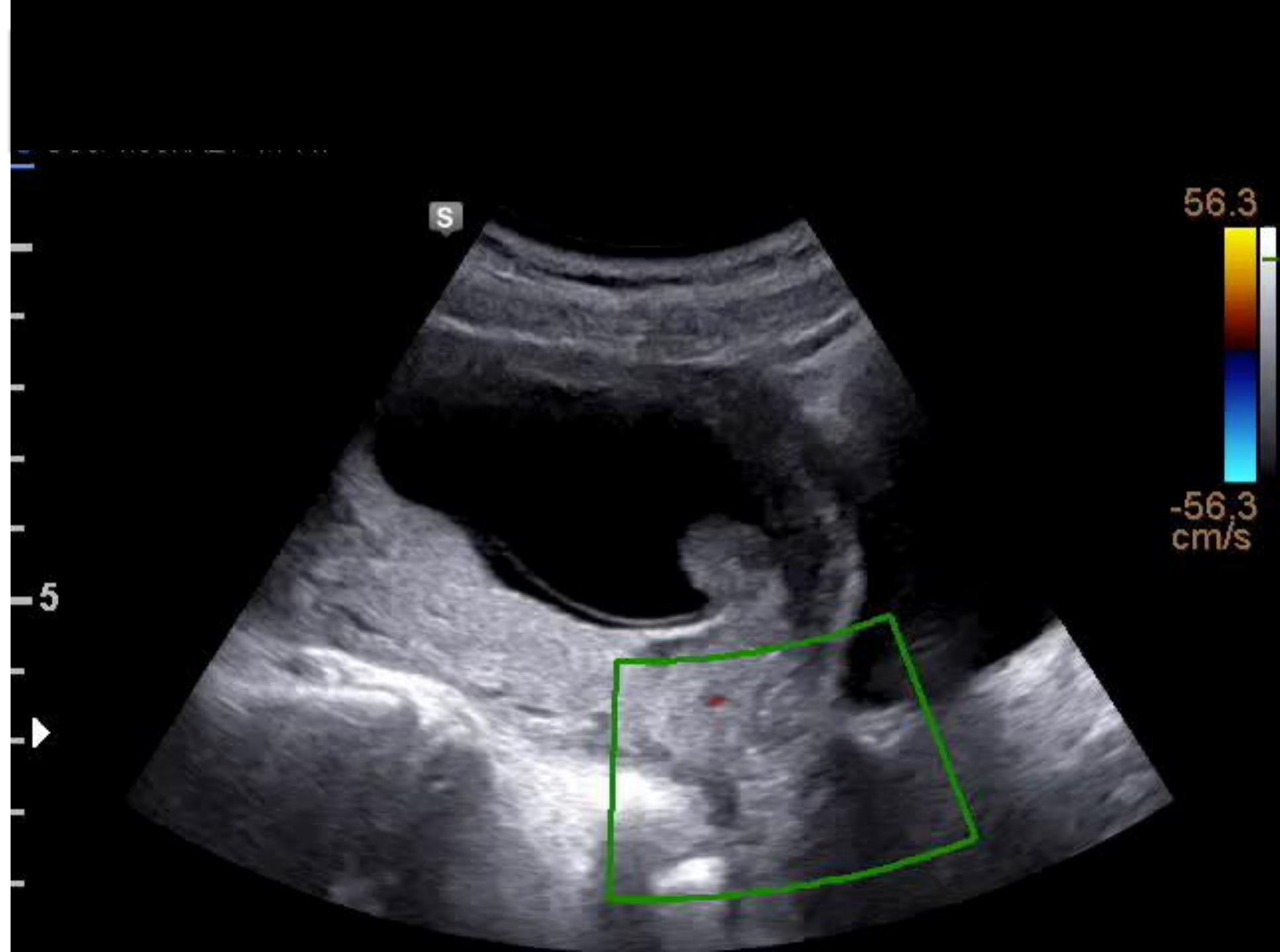
Sagittal section
Insonation angle $< 30^\circ$
Velocity > 60 cm/s
Sample Volume 2.0 mm

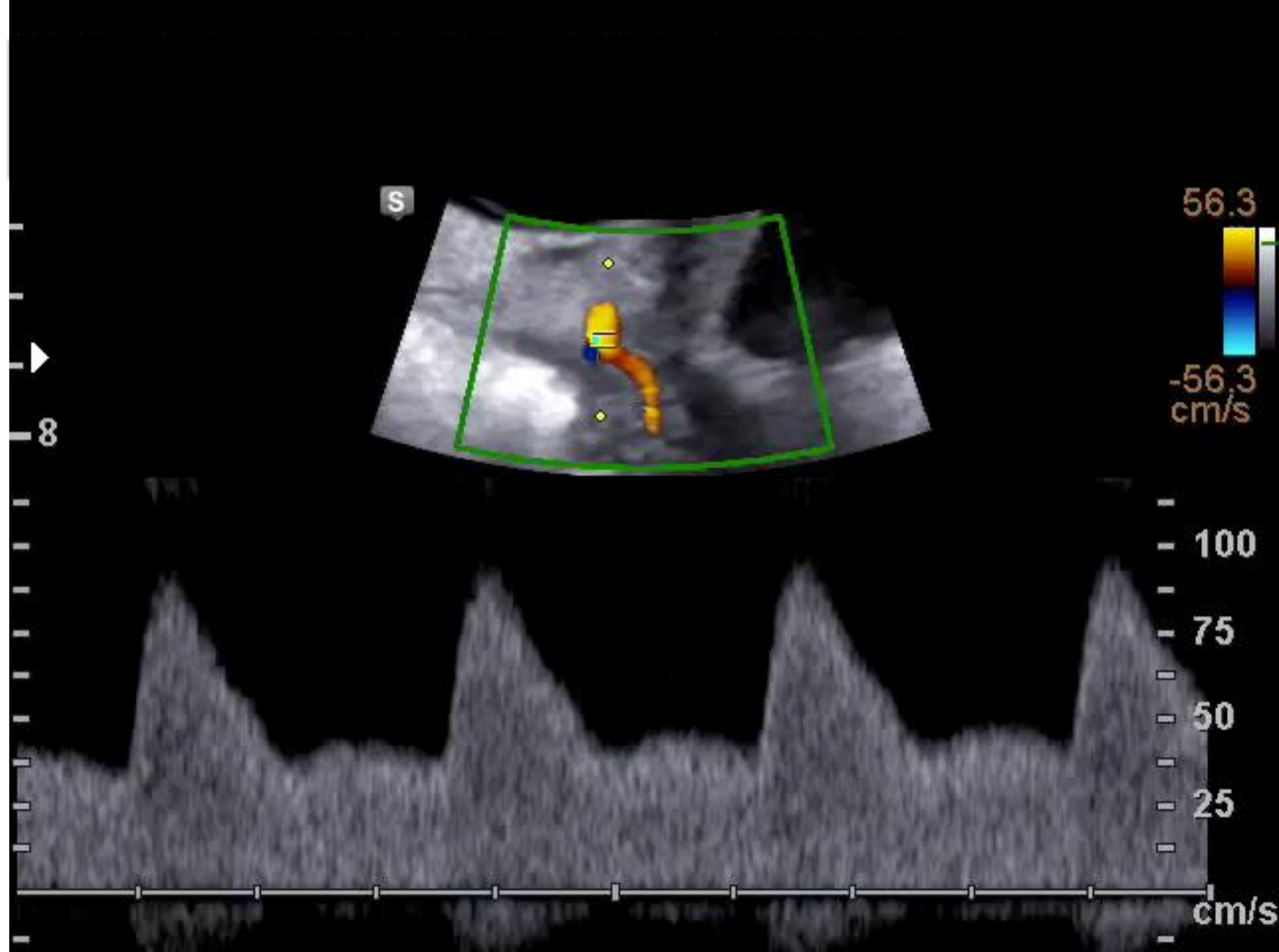


Examiner: Walter Ventura Laveriano










Uterine artery Doppler

 The Fetal Medicine Foundation



New Doppler technique for assessing uteroplacental blood flow

Stuart Campbell et al **THE LANCET** 1983;1:675-7.

Pulsed, Doppler ultrasound was used to study blood flow velocity profiles in the uterine vessels during the second and third trimesters of pregnancy.

In 30 normal pregnancies there was high diastolic velocity and low pulsatility.

In 31 pregnancies complicated with proteinuric hypertension, poor fetal growth, and fetal hypoxia the waveforms were suggestive of raised vascular resistance.

This non-invasive technique may give early warning of impaired uteroplacental perfusion and can be used to evaluate methods of improving uterine blood flow.

Principle of risk estimation

- Characteristics and maternal « risk factors »
- Biomarkers
- Mean arterial pressure (MAP)
- Uterine artery Doppler

FIGURE 4

Screening performance of the first trimester FMF prediction model for preeclampsia according to the different combinations at FPR of 10%

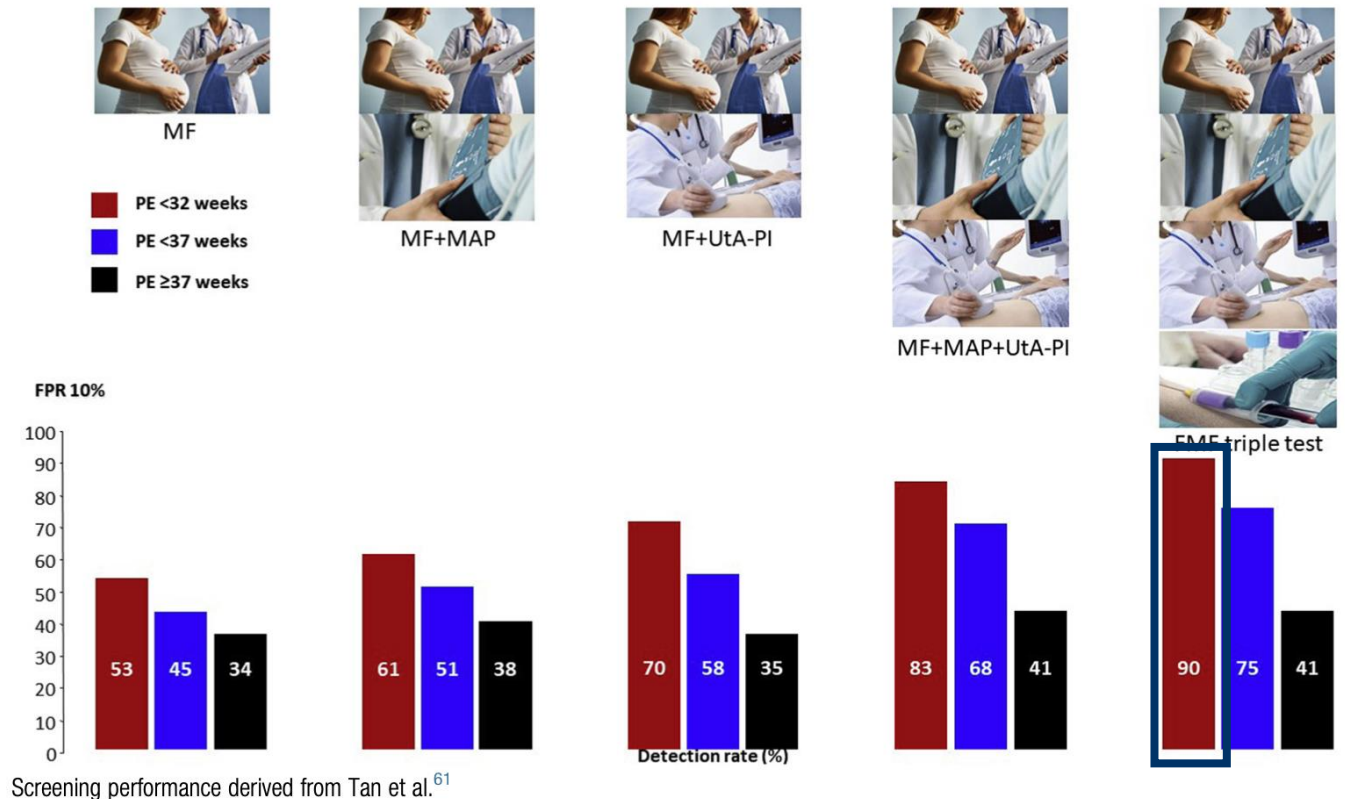
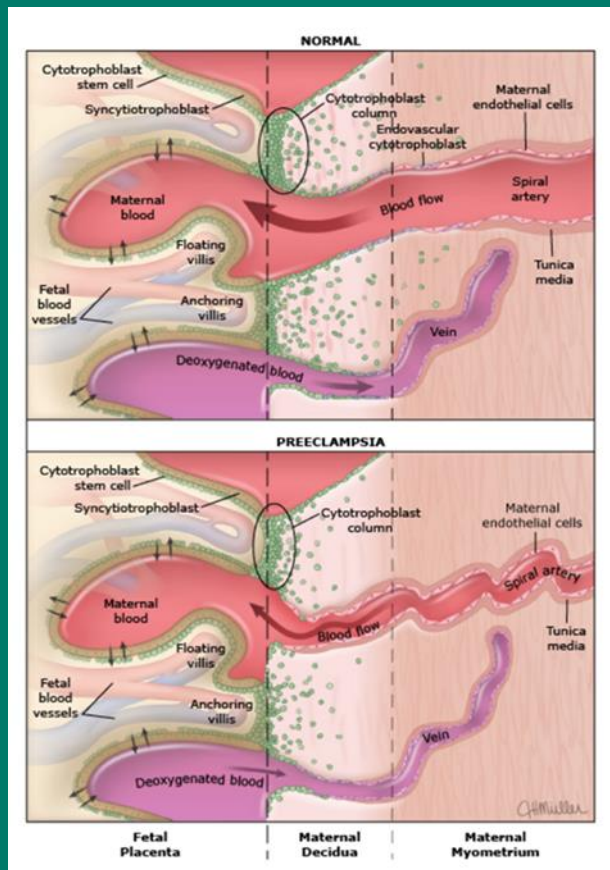


Table of Content



1. Introduction to preeclampsia
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- 3. Diagnosis**
4. Prevention
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Prognosis

Correlation of sFlt-1/PlGF Ratio with Time to Delivery or Preterm Birth in PROGNOSIS (Prediction of Short-term Outcome in Pregnant Women with Suspected Preeclampsia Study)

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10Rotkreuz, Switzerland;

11Penzberg, Germany; 12Berlin, Germany

Prognosis



The 'gold standard' for the diagnosis of preeclampsia is based on proteinuria and blood pressure screening but, pregnancies at risk for complications of preeclampsia are not correctly identified



Poor discrimination of high-risk pregnancies may cause unnecessary hospitalizations of patients who will not develop preeclampsia



Patients who develop preeclampsia may be underdiagnosed by screening of the blood pressure and proteinuria



A valid method to predict the development of preeclampsia is needed

Objectives of the study

1

- To demonstrate that low ratios of sFlt-1/PIGF predict absence of preeclampsia/eclampsia/HELLP syndrome within 1 week of baseline visit (*rule out*)
- To demonstrate that high ratios of sFlt-1/PIGF predict diagnosis of preeclampsia/eclampsia/HELLP syndrome within 4 weeks of baseline visit (*rule in*)

2

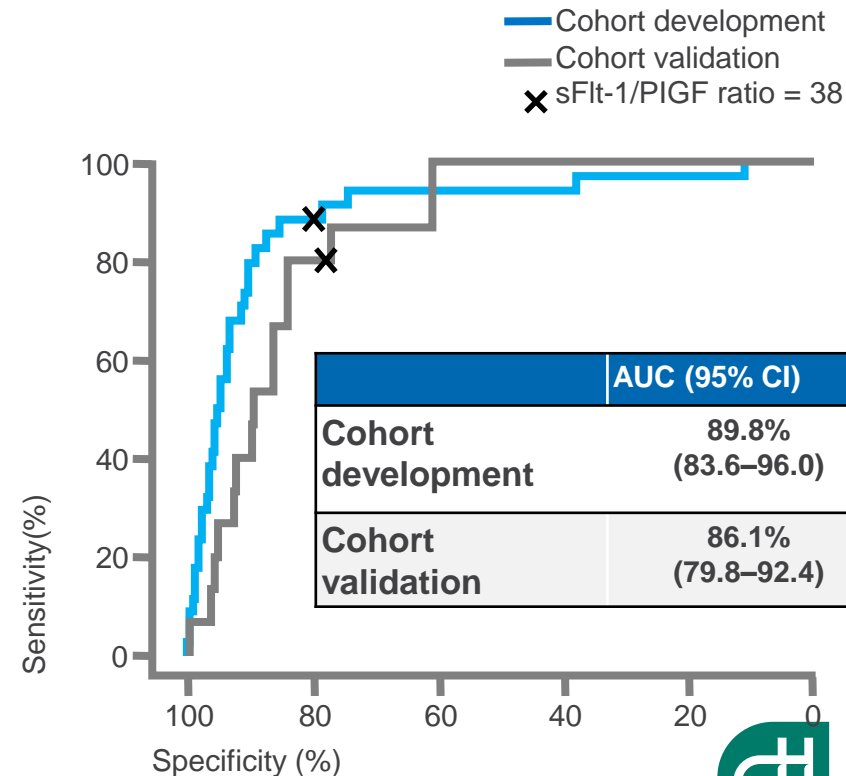
- Correlation of the sFlt-1/PIGF ratio with time to delivery and preterm birth were secondary exploratory objectives

HELLP = hemolysis, elevated liver enzymes, low platelets
PIGF = placental growth factor; sFlt-1 = soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase-1

“Ruling out” preeclampsia

When using the sFlt-1/PIGF cut-off ratio of ≤ 38 , preeclampsia can be ruled out within a week with a negative predictive value of **99.3%** (NPV)

Rule out of preeclampsia within a week (95% CI)		
	Cohort development	Cohort validation
NPV	98.9% (97.3–99.7)	99.3% (97.9–99.9)
Sensitivity	88.2% (72.5–96.7)	80.0% (51.9–95.7)
Specificity	80.0% (76.1–83.6)	78.3% (74.6–81.7)



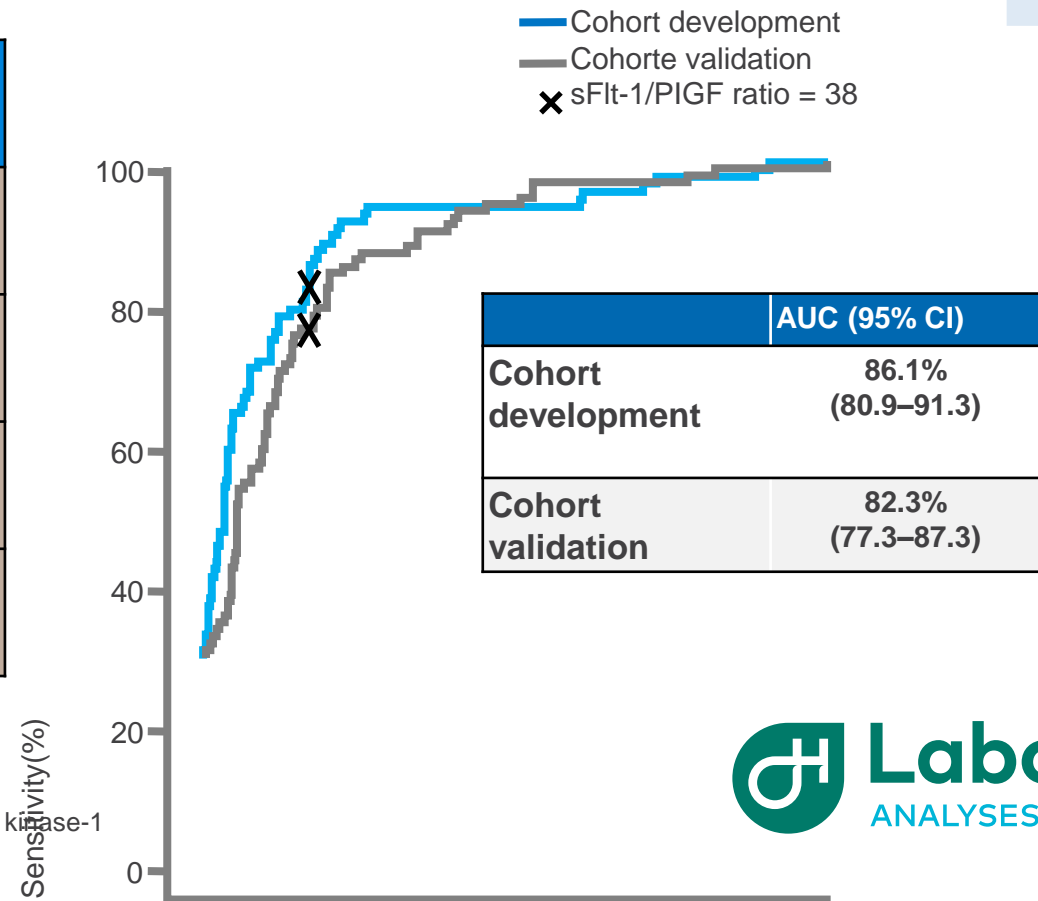
AUC = area under the curve; CI = confidence interval
PIGF = placental growth factor; sFlt-1 = soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase-1

“Ruling in” preeclampsia

When using the sFlt-1/PIGF cut-off ratio of **>38**, preeclampsia can be found within 4 weeks with a positive predictive value of **36.7% (PPV)**

Rule in preeclampsia within 4 weeks (95% CI)		
	Cohort development	Cohort validation
PPV	40.7% (31.9–49.9)	36.7% (28.4–45.7)
Sensitivity	74.6% (62.5–84.5)	66.2% (54.0–77.0)
Specificity	83.1% (79.3–86.5)	83.1% (79.4–86.3)

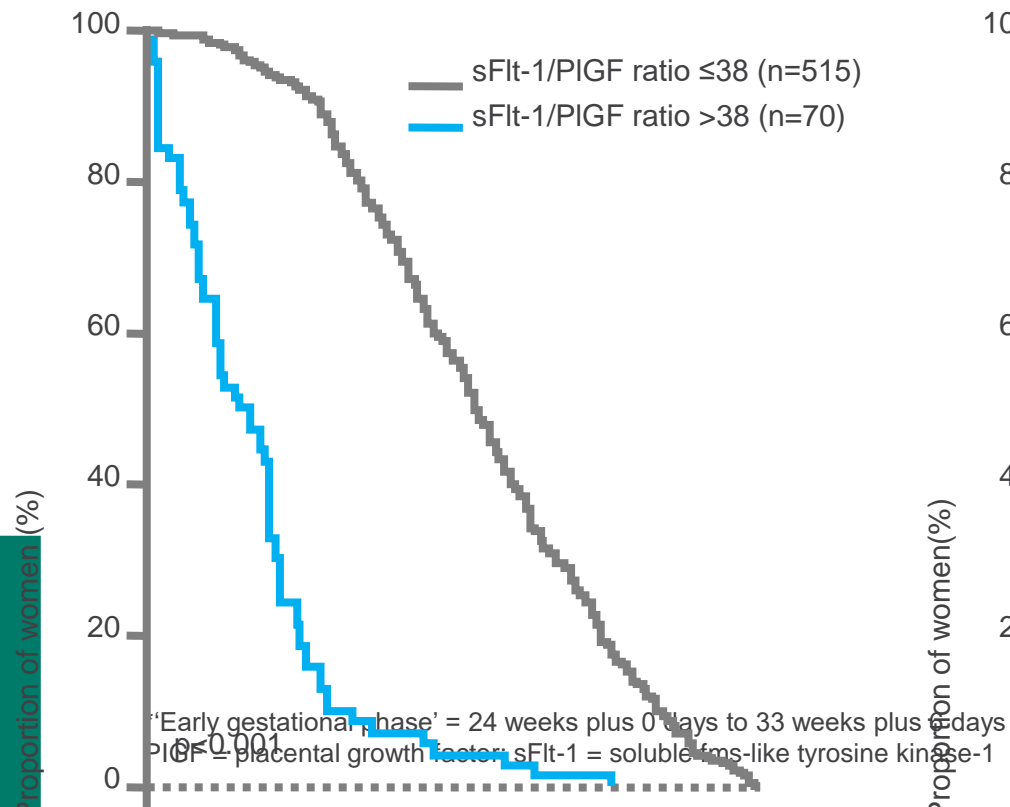
AUC = area under the curve; CI = confidence interval
PIGF = placental growth factor; sFlt-1 = soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase-1



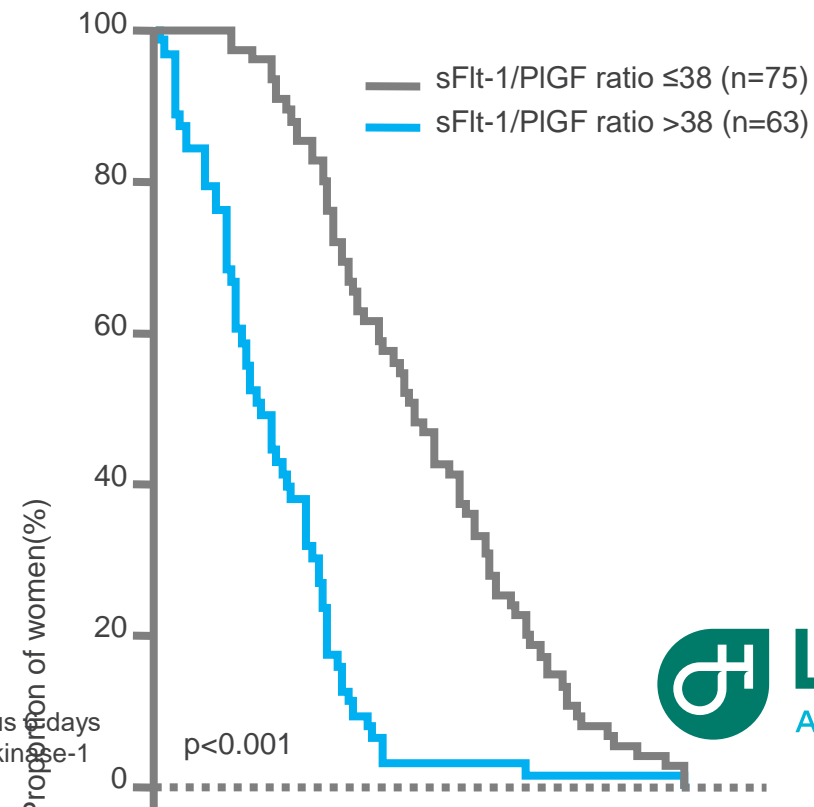
Time until delivery (<34 AS*)

All sFlt-1/PIGF ratio >38 were associated with shorter time to delivery

Women without preeclampsia



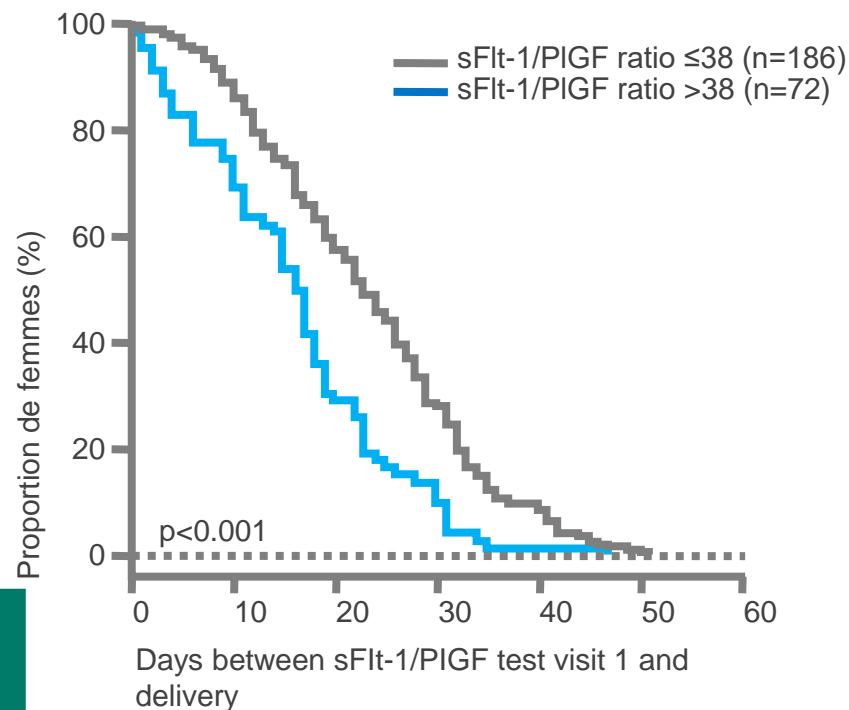
Women with preeclampsia



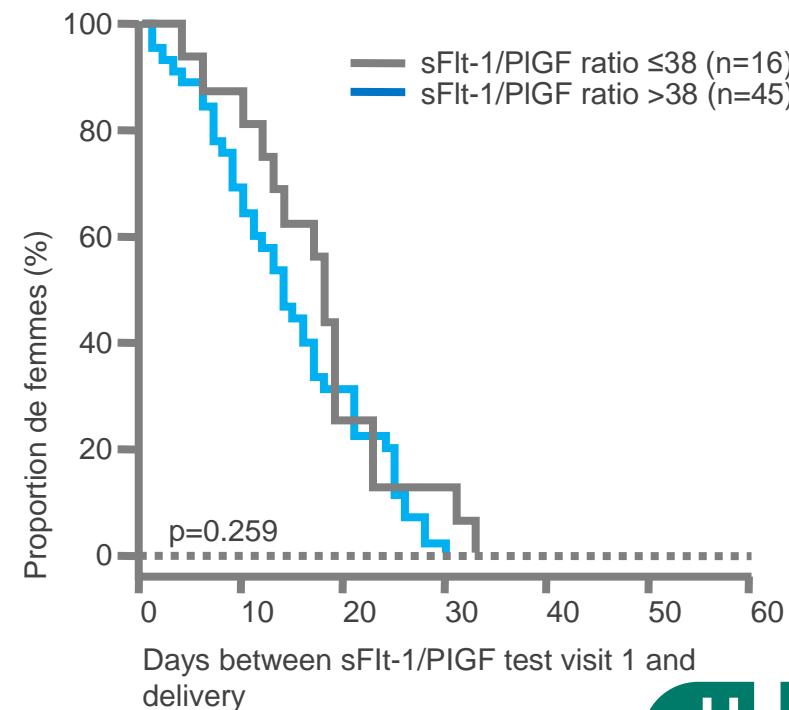
Time until delivery (≥ 34 AS*)

All sFlt-1/PlGF ratio >38 were associated with shorter time to delivery

Women without preeclampsia



Women with preeclampsia



*'Late gestational phase' = 34 weeks plus 0 days onwards
PlGF = placental growth factor; sFlt-1 = soluble fms-like tyrosine kinase-1

Conclusions Prognosis

- The sFlt-1/PlGF cut-off ratio of 38 is useful for the short-term prediction of the absence or presence of preeclampsia in women at risk
 - NPV (rule out) 99.3%
 - PPV (rule in) 36.7%
- The maternal sFlt-1/PlGF ratio provides information on the risk of preterm birth
 - An sFlt-1/PlGF ratio >38 was associated with a shorter time to delivery, especially before 34 weeks
- Women with an sFlt-1/PlGF ratio (>38) should be monitored more carefully, regardless of whether they develop preeclampsia

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

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Predictive Value of the sFlt-1:PlGF Ratio in Women with Suspected Preeclampsia

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Anne Cathrine Staff, M.D., Ph.D., Maria Sennström, M.D., Ph.D., Matts Olovsson, M.D., Ph.D.,
Shaun P. Brennecke, M.B., B.S., D.Phil., Holger Stepan, M.D., Deirdre Allegranza, B.A., Peter Dilba, M.Sc.,
Maria Schoedl, Ph.D., Martin Hund, Ph.D., and Stefan Verlohren, M.D., Ph.D.

ULTRASOUND
in Obstetrics & Gynecology



Original Paper | [Open Access](#) | 

The sFlt-1/PlGF Ratio: ruling out pre-eclampsia for up to 4 weeks and the value of retesting

H. Zeisler, E. Llurba, F. J. Chantraine, M. Vatish, A. C. Staff, M. Sennström, M. Olovsson,
S. P. Brennecke, H. Stepan, D. Allegranza, M. Schoedl, S. Grill, M. Hund, S. Verlohren 

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Hypertension: *Original Research*

VOL. 128, NO. 2, AUGUST 2016

Soluble fms-Like Tyrosine Kinase-1-to-Placental Growth Factor Ratio and Time to Delivery in Women With Suspected Preeclampsia

Harald Zeisler, MD, Elisa Llurba, MD, PhD, Frédéric Chantraine, MD, PhD, Manu Vatish, MD, DPhil, MRCOG,
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and Stefan Verlohren, MD, PhD

Recommendations for the use of sFlt-1/PlGF ratio in women with signs and symptoms of PE

sFlt-1/PlGF results (EP/LP)	Interpretation	Time to delivery	What should be done?
Low: <38	Rule out PE: 1 week: NPV 99% 4 weeks: NPV 95%	Unmodified	Reassuring the patient No further determination are needed unless new suspicion arises
Intermediate: 38-85/38-110	Rule in PE: 4 weeks: PPV 40%	20% remain pregnant after 1 month	Follow-up visit and retest in 1-2 weeks Maternal education about signs and symptoms of PE
High: >85/>110	Diagnosis of PE (or PD-related disorder) is highly likely	15% remain pregnant after 2 weeks	Follow-up visit and retest in 2-4 days EP: consider referral to high-level center LP: consider lowering the threshold for labor induction
Very high: >655/>201	Short-term complications and need to deliver are highly likely	30% remain pregnant after 2 days	Close surveillance EP: corticoids to the mother for fetal maturation

Implementation of the sFlt-1/PlGF ratio can save money



Enhancing the value of the sFlt-1/PlGF ratio for the prediction of preeclampsia: Cost analysis from the Belgian healthcare payers' perspective

Frederic Chantraine^a, Kristel Van Calsteren^b, Roland Devlieger^b, Damien Gruson^c, Joachim Van Keirsbilck^d, Ana Dubon Garcia^e, Katleen Vandeweyer^e, Leonardo Gucciardo^{f,*}

> J Matern Fetal Neonatal Med. 2017 Sep;30(18):2166-2173. doi: 10.1080/14767058.2016.1242122. Epub 2017 Feb 2.

Budget impact analysis of sFlt-1/PlGF ratio as prediction test in Italian women with suspected preeclampsia

Tiziana Frusca¹, Maria-Teresa Gervasi², Davide Paolini³, Matteo Dionisi³, Francesca Ferre^{4,5}, Irene Cetin⁶

> Dis Markers. 2019 Aug 14;2019:4096847. doi: 10.1155/2019/4096847. eCollection 2019.

sFlt-1/PlGF Ratio as a Predictive Marker in Women with Suspected Preeclampsia: An Economic Evaluation from a Swiss Perspective

Markus Hodel¹, Patricia R Blank², Petra Marty², Olav Lapaire³



> BMC Health Serv Res. 2018 Aug 6;18(1):603. doi: 10.1186/s12913-018-3406-1.

Economic assessment of the use of the sFlt-1/PlGF ratio test to predict preeclampsia in Germany

Dietmar Schlembach¹, Martin Hund², Annabel Schroer³, Cyrill Wolf²

Multicenter Study > Pregnancy Hypertens. 2018 Jul;13:30-36. doi: 10.1016/j.preghy.2018.04.014. Epub 2018 Apr 17.

Economic evaluation of sFlt-1/PlGF ratio test in pre-eclampsia prediction and diagnosis in two Brazilian hospitals

Sarah Franco Figueira¹, Cyrill Wolf², Marisa D'Innocenzo³, João Paulo Venezian de Carvalho¹, Mariana Granado Barbosa⁴, Eduardo Zlotnik⁵, Eduardo Cordioli⁵

Acta Obstet. Gynecol. Port. • Volume 13, Pages 82 - 90

sFlt-1/PlGF ratio for the predictive diagnosis of preeclampsia: budget impact analysis from the public healthcare perspective in Portugal

Campos A., Machado A., Martins H., Sao Jose Pais M., Ersek K., Lopes N.

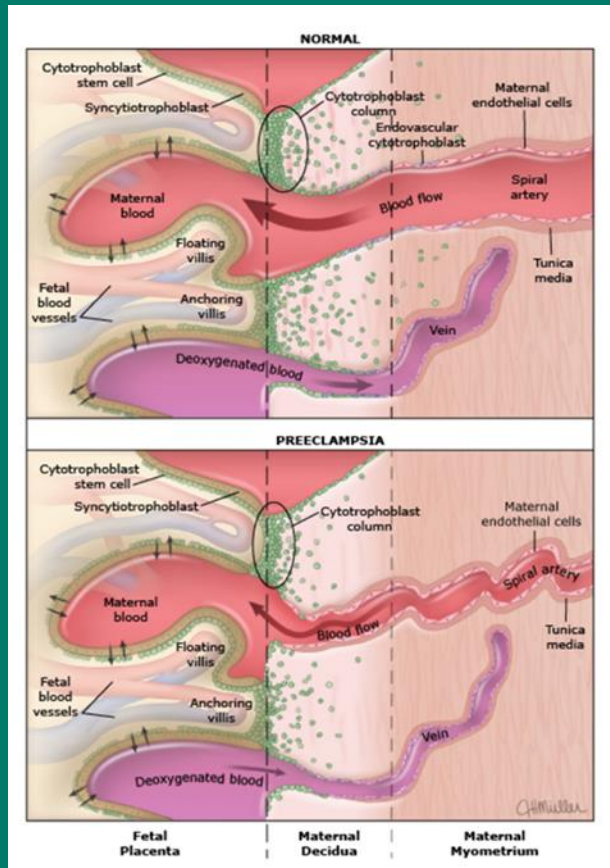
> Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol. 2016 Dec;48(6):765-771. doi: 10.1002/uog.15997. Epub 2016 Nov 8.

sFlt-1/PlGF ratio test for pre-eclampsia: an economic assessment for the UK

M Vatish¹, T Strunz-McKendry², M Hund³, D Allegranza³, C Wolf³, C Smare⁴



Table of Content



1. Introduction to preeclampsia
2. Screening
3. Diagnosis
- 4. Prevention**
5. Conclusion

Prevention of PE

ASPREE

2017

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Aspirin versus Placebo in Pregnancies at High Risk for Preterm Preeclampsia

Daniel L. Rolnik, M.D., David Wright, Ph.D., Liona C. Poon, M.D., Neil O’Gorman, M.D., Argyro Syngelaki, Ph.D., Catalina de Paco Matallana, M.D., Ranjit Akolekar, M.D., Simona Cicero, M.D., Deepa Janga, M.D., Mandeep Singh, M.D., Francisca S. Molina, M.D., Nicola Persico, M.D., Jacques C. Jani, M.D., Walter Plasencia, M.D., George Papaioannou, M.D., Kinneret Tenenbaum-Gavish, M.D., Hamutal Meiri, Ph.D., Sveinbjorn Gizurarson, Ph.D., Kate Maclagan, Ph.D., and Kypros H. Nicolaides, M.D.

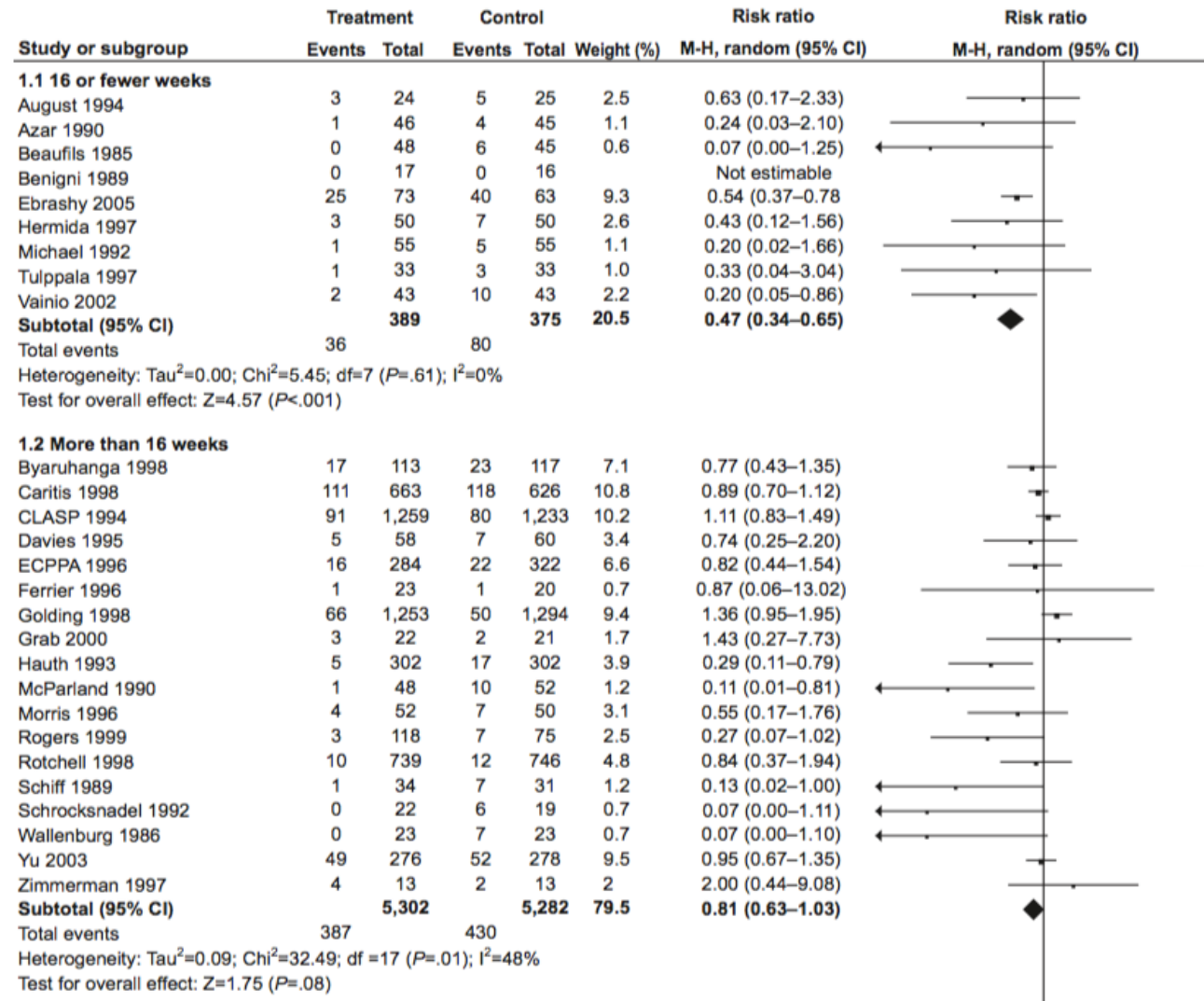
- multicenter, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial
- randomly assigned 1776 women with singleton pregnancies
- at high risk for preterm pre- eclampsia
- to receive aspirin (150 mg per day), or placebo
- from 11 to 14 weeks of gestation until 36 weeks
- primary outcome was delivery with preeclampsia before 37 weeks of gestation

ASPREE

- 798 Aspirin-Group
- 822 Placebo-Group
- Preeclampsia
 - 13/789 (1,6%) Aspirin-Group
 - 35/822 (4,3%) Placebo-Group
- Aspirin use was associated with a 62% reduction in the incidence of preterm PE and an 82% reduction in the incidence of PE at <34 weeks gestation.
- Treatment with low-dose aspirin in women at high risk for preterm preeclampsia resulted in a lower incidence of this diagnosis than placebo.



Preeclampsia



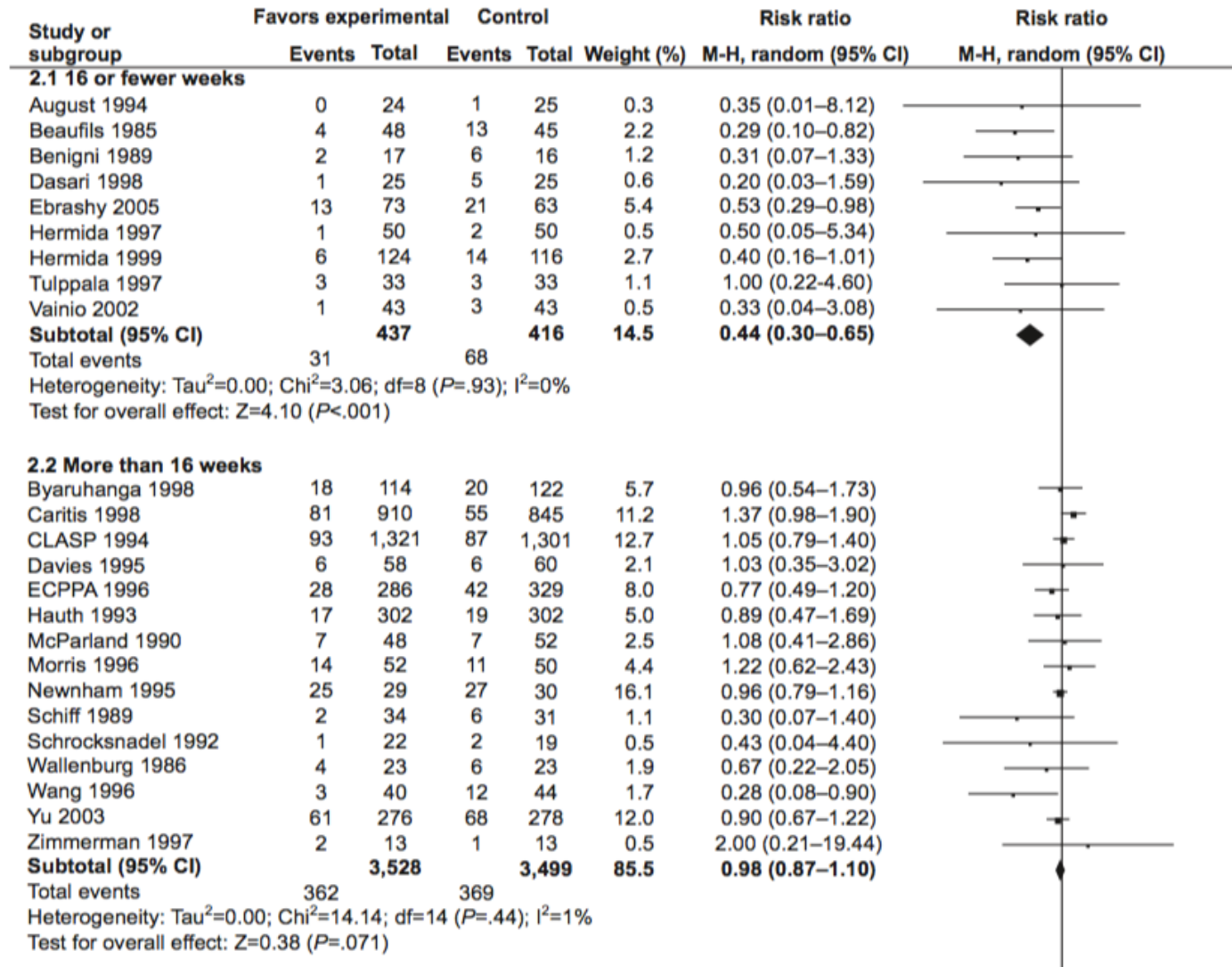
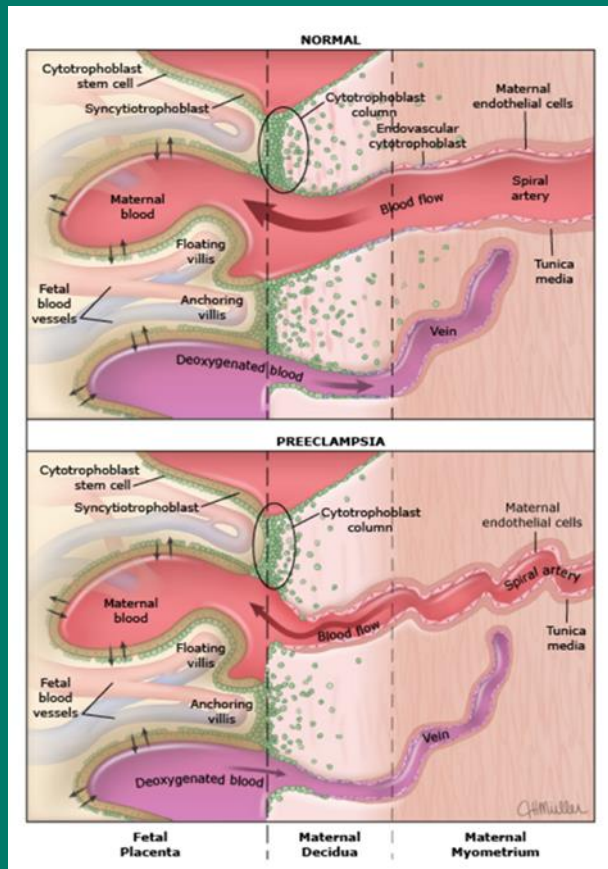


Table of Content

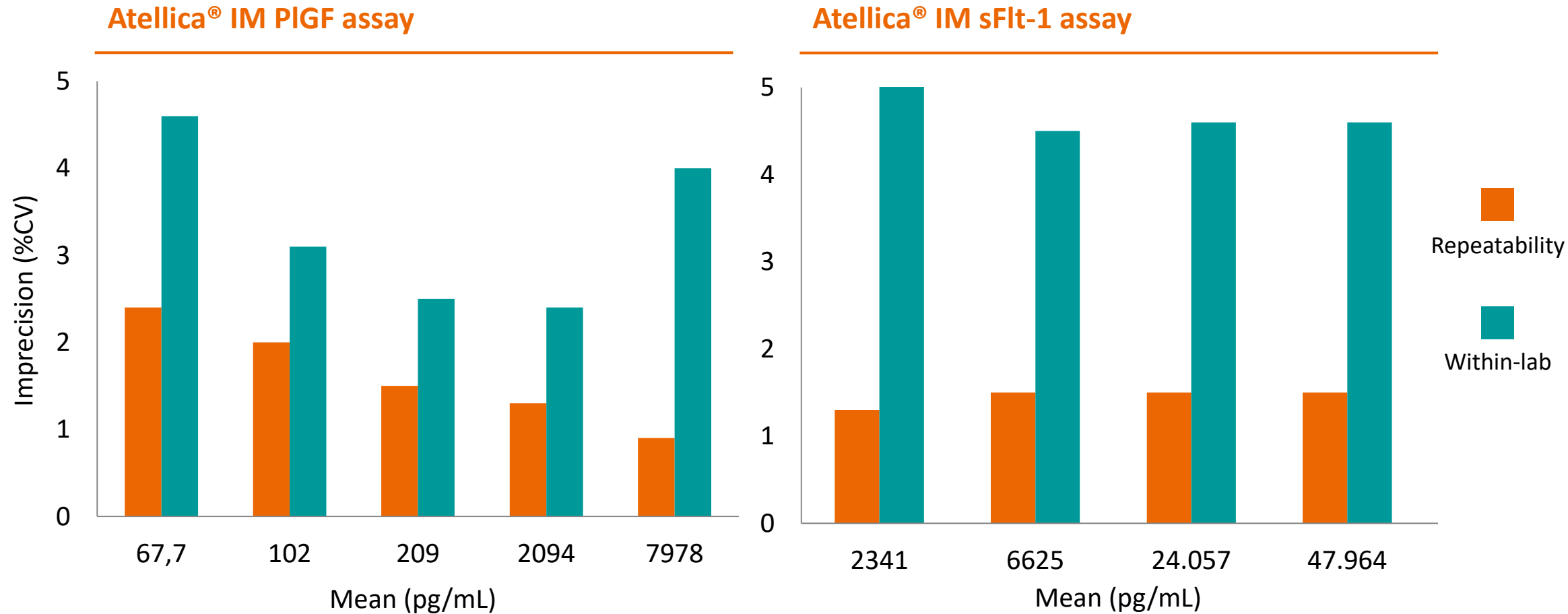


1. Introduction to preeclampsia
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Atellica® IM PIGF and sFLT-1

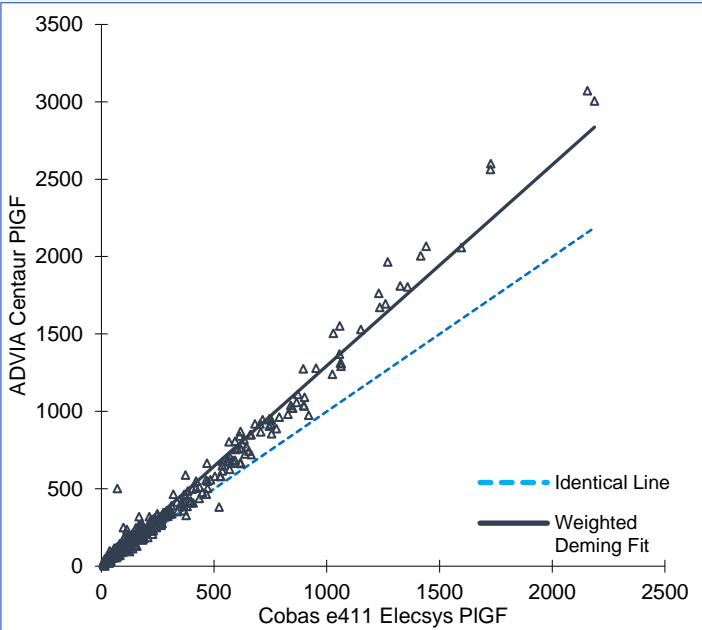
Robust precision across the assay range



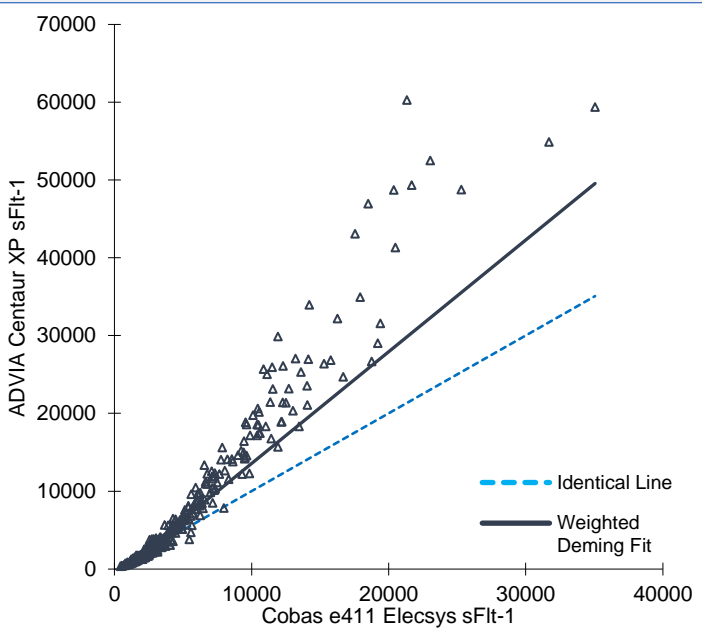
Method Comparisons:

Comparable Commercial Assays / Roche

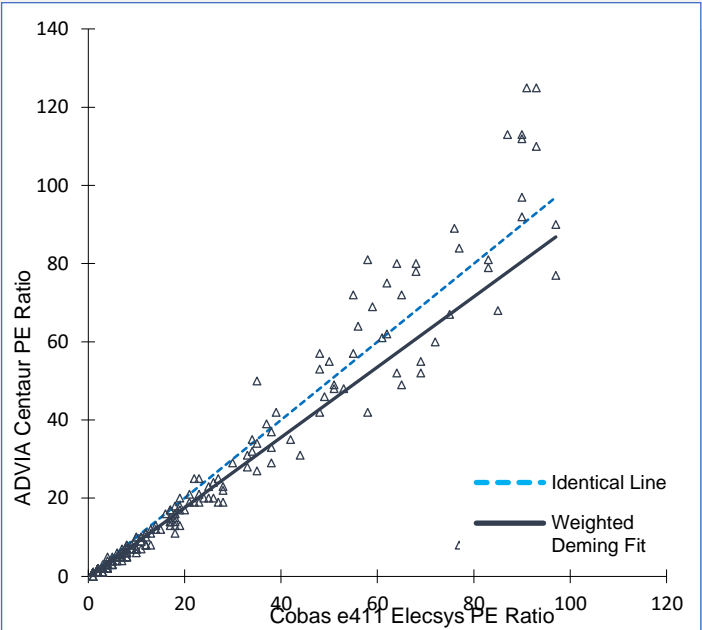
Centaur XP PIGF vs
Cobas e411 Elecsys PIGF



Centaur XP sFlt-1 vs Cobas
e411 Elecsys sFlt-1

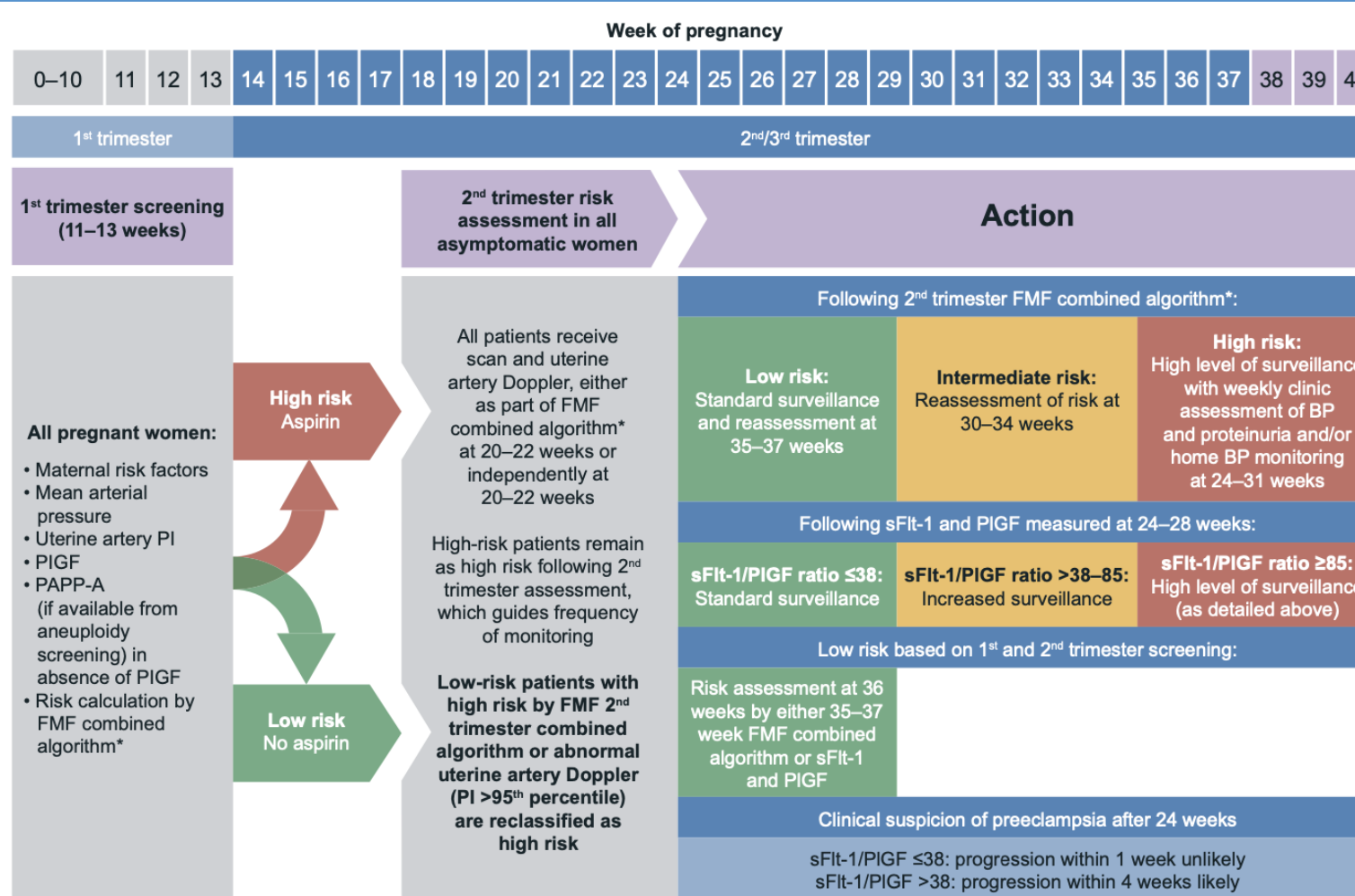


Centaur XP PE ratio vs
Cobas e411 Elecsys PE ratio



Assay	Specimen	Comparative Assay (x)	Regression Equation	Sample Interval / Range	n	r
ADVIA Centaur XP PIGF Assay	Serum	Cobas e411 Elecsys PIGF Assay	$y = 1.30 x - 2.7 \text{ pg/mL}$	8 – 2,187 pg/mL	338	0.980
ADVIA Centaur XP sFlt-1 Assay		Cobas e411 Elecsys sFlt-1 Assay	$y = 1.44 x - 822 \text{ pg/mL}$	451 – 35,061 pg/mL	338	0.944
ADVIA Centaur XP PE ratio [Low End of the Range]		Cobas e411 Elecsys PE ratio [Low End of the Range]	$Y = 0.90 x - 0.48$	1 -- 97	225	0.924

FollowUp



Stepan et al UOG, 2022

Take Home message

- T1 PE screening works
- sFlt-1/PIGF is a diagnostic aid for PE at T2/T3
- PE T2/T3 screening algorithms exist but require confirmation by prospective randomized studies



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ANALYSES MÉDICALES