



Letter to the Editor

Maternal serum insulin-like growth factor-I



To the Editor,

The recent report on maternal insulin-like growth factor-I is very interesting.¹ Yang et al. concluded that “maternal serum IGF-I is significantly related to GA, maternal BW, and BMI during pregnancy.”¹ In fact, there are some previous reports on this issue. Pathmaperuma et al. made a completely different observation.² In their report, it was reported that serum IGF-I “did not correlate with newborn or maternal anthropometric indices”.² There are many facts to be considered. First, the level of serum IGF-I is sometimes mentioned to vary between different races,² and this might be the possible explanation for different observations in different settings. Second, the present report used only patient history to conclude that the patient was in fact “healthy”. There are many possible abnormalities that are occult, and are only biochemical abnormalities in the mothers. Third, the techniques for determination of IGF-I level should be discussed. It would appear that the diagnostic properties seem to be variable from test kit to test kit.³

References

1. Yang MJ, Tseng JY, Chen CY, Yeh CC. Changes in maternal serum insulin-like growth factor-I during pregnancy and its relationship to maternal anthropometry. *J Chin Med Assoc* 2013;**76**:635–9.
2. Pathmaperuma AN, Tennekoon KH, Senanayake L, Karunanayake EH. Maternal and cord blood levels of insulin-like growth factors—I and—II and insulin-like growth factor binding protein-1: correlation with birth weight and maternal anthropometric indices. *Ceylon Med J* 2007;**52**:48–52.
3. Krebs A, Wallaschofski H, Spilcke-Liss E, Kohlmann T, Brabant G, Völzke H, et al. Five commercially available insulin-like growth factor I (IGF-I) assays in comparison to the former Nichols Advantage IGF-I in a growth hormone treated population. *Clin Chem Lab Med* 2008;**46**:1776–83.

Viroj Wiwanitkit
Hainan Medical University, China
Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Serbia
Joseph Ayobabalola University, Nigeria

Dr. Viroj Wiwanitkit, Wiwanitkit House, Bangkhuae,
Bangkok, Thailand.
E-mail address: vviroj@yahoo.com