

ESPS PEER REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: World Journal of Diabetes

ESPS manuscript NO: 13691

Title: Birth defects in pregestational maternal diabetes: defect range, glycemic threshold and pathogenesis.

Reviewer code: 00631886

Science editor: Fang-Fang Ji

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CLASSIFICATION	LANGUAGE EVALUATION	RECOMMENDATION	CONCLUSION
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing	Google Search:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accept
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> High priority for publication
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing	<input type="checkbox"/> No records	<input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejected	BPG Search:	<input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision
<input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Poor		<input type="checkbox"/> Existing	<input type="checkbox"/> Major revision
		<input type="checkbox"/> No records	

COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

1. Title and terminology: "Pregestational" implies maternal. I did a PubMed search and found only one article that uses the term of "pregestational maternal diabetes" compared to 82 articles that use the term of "pregestational diabetes". Suggest to use the latter. 2. In citing articles that report rate and range of birth defects, information on glycemic control should be provided. In this way, readers can make a judgement on whether glucose-lowering treatment had an impact on the rate and range of birth defects that were observed in a specific study. 3. Under the "Glycemic threshold for birth defects" subheading, these sentences of "Hanson et al. [25] studied 532 type 1 PGMD women and compared their malformation rate to 222 nondiabetic women. The rate of malformations did not differ significantly between the diabetic and the control groups (4.3% vs 2.4%)." should be part of the previous subheading "Range of birth defects". 4. Also under the "Glycemic threshold for birth defects" heading. In the last paragraph, the sentence of "In conclusion, It is clear that glycemic control is associated with congenital anomalies," needs editing. "... associated with..." is better to be changed to "... associated with a reduced risk of ...". In addition, "It" should be "it", and the last "," should be ".". 5. Be accurate in citing literature. Under the "Glycemic threshold for birth defects" subheading. Last paragraph on page 12. The authors cited the studies of Greene et al. [34] and Zabihi et al. [35]. However, Zabihi's study did nothing with HbA1 when I read through the paper. In Greene's study, the abstract says "The risk for major malformation was 3.0% with Hb A1 less than or



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equal to 9.3% and 40% with Hb A1 greater than 14.4% (risk ratio 13.2; 95% confidence interval 4.3-40.4)." These figures are different from those cited in the manuscript. Please confirm. 6. HbA1c or HgA1c. Consistence in the usage of the term my help avoid confusion to readers. 7. The use of abbreviation of neural tube defects is inconsistent throughout the manuscript and should be corrected.