Snippets

Snippets from the world wide web

*Sri Lanka Journal of Child Health*, 2002; 31: 91

**Steroids not useful for childhood meningitis in developing countries**

In contrast to the experience in developed countries, steroid therapy does not improve the outcomes of children with bacterial meningitis in developing countries.


**Successful stenting of fetal posterior urethral valves reported**

A German clinician has for the first time performed successful in utero stenting of posterior urethral valves, a procedure that he says could save the lives of thousands of infants each year.


**HIV-1 hyperimmune globulin may lower mother-to-child HIV transmission rates**

HIVIGLOB, an HIV-1 hyperimmune globulin produced in Uganda, appears safe and may prevent vertical transmission of HIV infection.


**Unexpectedly low risk of congenital varicella syndrome reported**

The frequency of varicella syndrome among infants born to mothers with clinical varicella zoster virus infection during pregnancy is very low, researchers report.

[http://mp.medscape.com/cgibin1/flo?y=hRxLOEIZ1O0Dya0Flib0A7](http://mp.medscape.com/cgibin1/flo?y=hRxLOEIZ1O0Dya0Flib0A7)

**Persistent or recurrent maternal health problems adversely affect offspring**

Continuing maternal problems with smoking, poor physical health and depression are reflected in offspring's health, behaviour and language development at 3 years of age, US physicians report.


**Immune system differences may explain fewer allergies in children living on farms**

European researchers have found that levels of immune system receptors that trigger response to bacterial infection are significantly higher amongst the children of farmers, which may help to explain the lower number of allergies in this population.


**Some asthmatic children may show emphysema-like lung changes**

About a third of studied asthmatic children show low-density areas on high-resolution computed tomography (HRCT) scans that are possibly indicative of emphysema-like changes in lung structure, according to Italian researchers.


**Preterm infants at increased risk for cognitive and behavioral problems**

Children born prematurely appear to be at increased risk for scoring low on cognitive tests and having certain behavioral problems, including attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), US researchers report.

[http://mp.medscape.com/cgibin1/flo?y=hSqF0EIZIO0Dya0FMPT0AI](http://mp.medscape.com/cgibin1/flo?y=hSqF0EIZIO0Dya0FMPT0AI)

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