The study group was divided into three subgroups according to gestational age (SGA). Mean age at first thyroid function evaluation was 18.3 ± 12.5 days. Mean FT4 levels were 12.0 ± 3.1, 14.1 ± 3.3 and 17.7 ± 3.9 pmol/L in three subgroups, respectively and significantly lower in infants < 28 weeks. In all subgroups SGA infants had lower FT4 levels, but it was significantly lower in only 28–31 6/7 and 32–33 6/7 weeks but not in < 28 weeks subgroup. Overall, the prevalence of hypothyroxinemia and hypothyroidism were 25% and 0.8%, respectively in the first evaluation. 17.6% of infants < 28 weeks had hypothyroxinemia (n=13) and all of them were treated. In the total group levothyroxine treatment was given to 51 (11.9%) infants. Mean treatment period was 1.6 ± 1.2 years.

**Conclusion** Free T4 levels were lower in the early gestational age subgroups. SGA infants had lower FT4 levels.

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**PREVALENCE OF SENSORINEURAL HEARING LOSS IN PATIENTS WITH CONGENITAL HYPOTHYROIDISM**

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**Background and Aims** Congenital hypothyroidism is mainly diagnosed through neonatal screening program. Normal physical and mental development can be maintained with pertinent replacement therapy. One of the associated abnormalities in these patients is the sensorineural hearing defect, which has a prevalence of about 20% according to relevant references. The purpose of this study was to obtain the prevalence of sensorineural hearing loss in children with congenital hypothyroidism identified in the screening program in Qazvin, Iran.

**Methods** All patients affected with congenital hypothyroidism identified in the screening program (in Qazvin, Iran) were enrolled in this study. They were both under observed and hormonal replacement therapy by referral Endocrine Diseases Clinic and auditory brainstem responses test (ABR) was performed for all subjects.

**Results** Of 169 patients with congenital hypothyroidism, 42.8% were female. The prevalence of sensorineural hearing loss was 5.3% (6 male, 2 female). Statistical analysis did not reveal any significant difference between the prevalence of sensorineural hearing loss with other variables of the study.

**Conclusions** A remarkable difference was observed between the results of our study with those stated in the references. Normal sensorineural hearing can be maintained with pertinent replacement therapy.

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**PLACENTAL WEIGHT: RELATION TO MATERNAL WEIGHT AND GROWTH PARAMETERS AT BIRTH AND DURING CHILDHOOD**

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**Background** Human growth is a continuous process. Studies defining placental effect on growth focus on discrete time points (e.g., birth), overlooking the conditional nature of the process.

**Material and Methods** Two hundred mothers who gave birth at term after an uncompleted singleton pregnancy were studied using conditional analysis. Placental weight, infant length (BL), weight (BW), and head circumference (HC) were obtained at birth and during childhood period (4.5 ± 2.2 years) of age. Placental weight was correlated with growth parameters of the child at birth and during childhood.

**Results** At birth, placental weight was correlated significantly with maternal weight (r = 0.21, r < 0.001), infant BW (r = 0.71, r < 0.001), BMISDS (r = 0.589, p < 0.001), LSDS (0.567, p < 0.001), and HC (r = 0.699, p < 0.001). During childhood, placental weight was correlated with BMI SDS (r = 0.296, p < 0.002), HtSDS = (r = 0.254, p = 0.009). Length SDS at birth was correlated significantly with HtSDS during childhood (r = 0.445, p < 0.001).

**Conclusion** Placental weight is a good pointer of birth size (weight, length and HC) and may help forecast childhood growth.

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**THE DIFFERENTIAL-DIAGNOSTIC FEATURES OF THELARCHE SYNDROME IN GIRLS**

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**Aim** To determine the most significant criteria in the diagnosis of true precocious puberty and premature thelarche.

**Methods** 68 girls were analyzed in the endocrinological department in Minsk over 2003–2011 yrs. Group 1 (G1) - girls with isolated thelarche (IT) (58; 85.3%), group 2 (G2) - with true precocious puberty (TPP) (10; 14.7%). Ultrasound (u/s) organs of the small pelvis, bone age, the levels of hormones (follicle-stimulating hormone (FSH), luteinizing hormone (LH), estradiol (E2); gonadotropin-releasing hormone analogue (GRH) stimulating test were conducted to all patients. Results were processed using the Statistica 6.1.

**Results** Breast development in G1: stages on Tanner 2 (84.3%), 3 (15.7%); G2: Tanner 2 (80%), 3 (20%). The onset of thelarche G1 12.3 ± 0.8 yrs, G2 2.5 ± 0.77 (p = 0.2). Bone age (BoA)/biological age (BioA) G1 0.67 ± 0.08 < 1 yrs, G2 3.3 ± 0.01. Uterus length G1 28 ± 1.85 ( < 35 mm), G2 35 ± 4.29 (p = 0.01). There was an excess of prepubertal ovariens norm (0.2ml) G1 65%, G2 48% with the presence of follicules G1 20%, G2 100%. Basal FSH levels G1 4.73 ± 0.52 (1.8–10.5 IU/L), G2 4.25 ± 0.87 (p = 0.03); LH G1 0.76 ± 0.13 (1–10 IU/L), G2 2 ± 0.8 (p = 0.15); E2 G1 0.12 ± 0.02 < 0.5 ng/ml, G2 0.14 ± 0.05 (p = 0.08). There was a pubertal excess of LH levels in G2 (54 ± 20.4 IU/L) by conducting GRH stimulating test.

**Conclusions** The differential diagnosis between TPP and IT are: advance BoA to BiA, the excess of uterus length by u/s and E2 levels, excess of LH levels by conducting stimulating test with GRH (which is the most important feature).

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**GENDER PECULIARITIES OF THE COURSE OF GRAVES-BASEDOW DISEASE IN CHILDREN**

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**Aim** To determine gender peculiarities of the course of Graves-Basedow disease (GBD) in children depending on the sex and stage of puberty.

**Methods** We analyzed retrospectively 28 children with GBD in the endocrinological department of University hospital over the 2011 year (boys/Girls(G) 3/25, mean±SD age 13.15±3.08 yrs). We conducted additional division on the subgroups of early (Tanner 2–3) and late (Tanner 4–5) puberty.

**Results** 67.8% children had complains (B losing weight (66.7%); G weakness (52%); heartbeat (24%). Family history wasn’t burdened in 53.3% B and 64% G. Relatives with diabetes mellitus type 2 was in 7.1% G, thyroid - in 35.3% B and 25.0% G. Other endocrinopathies 33.3% B, 12% G. There was a tendency of more early manifestation GBD in G 12.94±3.07 yrs (B 14.86±2.42 yrs) (p < 0.05). The onset of GBD was mainly in late puberty regardless of gender. There was lower TSH 0.085±0.13 (0.23–3.4IU/L) and higher free T4 62.13±34.34 (10–23.2pmol/l) levels in B (G 0.12±0.2 and