Abstracts

**Results** Ninety-one healthy term infants aged 1 to 36 hrs were studied (<6 hrs – 21, 6–12 hrs – 47, 13–24 hrs – 11, and 25–36 hrs – 12). A well-developed SWC was evident as early as within the first 6 hrs after birth. The mean (SD) percentage of active sleep (AS) was 52.1% (12.9), quiet sleep (QS) - 38.6% (12.5). AS was longer and QS shorter in infants delivered by elective caesarean section (CS) compared to infants delivered by vaginal delivery (AS: p<0.01; QS: p=0.02) or emergency CS (AS: p=0.04; QS: p=0.02). Five infants did not have any SWC present. Disrupted SWCs correlated significantly with the absence of a spontaneous onset of labour (p=0.03).

**Conclusion** This is the first time that SWC composition has been quantified using EEG monitoring so early in the postnatal period. AS dominates and SWC is clearly present immediately after birth. SWC composition appears to be influenced by labour and mode of delivery.

**Methods** Head measurements with STARscanner laser shape digitizer (Vorum research Corp., Vancouver, BC) were performed in preterm infants prior to discharge over a 12 month period. Data on HC and BW were calculated with STARscanner Laser Data Acquisition System (Orthomenca, Orlando, FL) and analyzed in different subgroups.

**Results** Included were 243 neonates at time of discharge (mean HC 32.8±1.9 cm, mean HW 356±72±6.3 ml). a) There was an overall correlation between HC and BW (r=0.90, R²=0.81, p<0.001). Correlation between HC and BW was: b) in infants with a PMA < 37 (r=0.71, R²=0.52, p=0.001) vs. PMA > 37 weeks (r=0.92, R²=0.85, p<0.001) and c) in BW < 2500g (r=0.69, R²=0.49, p=0.04) vs. BW > 2500g (r=0.88, R²=0.77, p<0.001).

**Conclusions** Neonates with comparable HC can show very different HW, especially in infants with low PMA or BW. Thus additional measurement of HW enables to detect variable patterns of head growth and shape. Underlying causes and the meaning for neurological outcome need to be determined.

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**Methods** In this study, 25 infants diagnosed with HIE were evaluated prospectively. The diagnosis was made according to criterias of American Gynaecology and Obstetric Academy (ACOG, 2003). Serum creatinine, NT-proBNP, cystatin C and urinary β2 microglobulin in all patients were measured on the 1st and 5th days of hospitalization.

**Results** The mean gestational age was 38.7 weeks and the birth weight was 3255 grams. Patients were classified as stage-1 (n=5), stage-2 (n=15) and stage-3 (n=5) HIE according to Sarnat classification. Therapeutic hypothermia was established in 6 patients. Acute renal failure (ARF) developed in 3 cases with stage 3 HIE. Peritoneal dialysis was performed for 2 of them. First day serum creatinine levels were higher than the 5th day levels (p=0.01). NT-proBNP and cystatin-C levels was significantly lower on the fifth day (p=0.01). Although not statistically significant, urinary β2 microglobulin (mg/g cre) levels on the 1st day were higher than the 5th day (p=0.40). On the first day of hospitalization, a statistically significant correlation between NT-proBNP and creatinine (p=0.02), cystatin-C (p=0.01) and urinary β2 microglobulin levels (p=0.01) were determined. NT-proBNP and cystatin-C levels were significantly high on the first day in infants developing ARF.

**Conclusion** It may be beneficial to evaluate serum N-terminal proBNP vs cystatin-C with creatinin levels in HIE patients for the diagnosis, severity and follow-up of ARF.

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