

Antenatal corticosteroids and brain development : the use of S100B as an early predictor of brain impairment

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Stellingen

Behorend bij het proefschrift

Antenatal corticosteroids and brain development: the use of S100B as an early predictor of brain impairment

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14 november 2007

1. Though beneficial for lung maturation, antenatal betamethasone treatment may have significant, both short- and long-term, consequences on offspring development (*dit proefschrift*).
2. Antenatal betamethasone treatment impairs fetal growth thus increasing the risk of disease in adulthood (*dit proefschrift*).
3. Antenatal betamethasone treatment induces a reduction of neurotrophic S100B protein in the urine of human newborns as well as in the hippocampus and in the blood of male rats (*dit proefschrift*).
4. In adult offspring antenatal betamethasone treatment does not affect cognition- and anxiety-related behavior and synaptophysin immunoreactivity within the hippocampus. However, hippocampal MAP2 immunoreactivity is reduced in male rats treated with antenatal betamethasone (*dit proefschrift*).
5. Overall, males are more affected by antenatal betamethasone treatment when compared to females (*dit proefschrift*).
6. Further research is needed to investigate whether a lower dose of antenatal betamethasone is still beneficial for lung maturation (*dit proefschrift*).
7. *Un Médecin, c'est quelqu'un qui verse des drogues qu'il connaît peu dans un corps qu'il connaît moins* – MD: a person who administers drugs of which he knows little, into a body that he knows even less (Voltaire, 1694-1778).
8. A rock does not ask itself "Why do I exist?" It does not, precisely because it is a rock and not a human being. The human being, on the other hand, is properly that level of nature in which nature asks itself "Why do I exist?" Man is that minuscule particle which demands a meaning, a reason – the reason (Luigi Giussani, 1922-2005).
9. To be conscious of oneself to the very centre, to the point of meeting "an Other", thus totally realizing the human being's grandeur.
10. Being Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction (Pope Benedictus XVI).