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SHG – Severe Hyperemesis Gravidarum

NIHR BioResource – Rare Diseases study project

Lead Investigators:
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V2 04/03/2021

Summary

Severe hyperemesis gravidarum (HG) describes severe nausea and vomiting of pregnancy (NVP) that is associated with dehydration, ketosis and weight loss. It is associated with severe morbidity for mother and fetus (thromboembolism, psychological distress, Wernicke's encephalopathy, growth restriction), and mortality.

There is evidence for genetic susceptibility of severe HG but only a very small number of studies have been performed and there is a paucity of well phenotyped cohorts. There is also an unmet need for phenotyping, identification of genomic susceptibility loci, evaluation of treatment protocols and economic evaluation of the benefits of effective outpatient management. HG is likely to have a complex aetiology and improved phenotyping will enable personalised care to improve outcomes for mothers and offspring.

Prof. Cath Williamson & Dr Peter Dixon, SHG project Leads

Recruitment Criteria

Inclusion

In current or previous pregnancy:

1. Either family history OR recurrent disease OR sufficiently severe disease to develop Wernicke's encephalopathy/require HDU or ITU admission
2. Still having symptoms with second line medication
    a. Symptoms resulting in PUQE* score of ≥13
    AND/OR
    b. Weight loss ≥5kg or ≥10% of pre-pregnancy body weight

*PUQE: Pregnancy-Unique Quantification of Emesis