

TWINS 2012

The Joint 2nd World Congress on Twin Pregnancy and
the 14th Congress of the International Society of Twin Studies (ISTS):
“The biology, genetics, clinical challenges and uniqueness of twin gestations”

Florence, Italy, April 1- 4, 2012

ADVANCED PROGRAMME

Sunday, April 1, 2011

Congress venue: Sheraton Congress Centre, Florence

13:30 pm – 16:30 pm

PRECONGRESS COURSE 1: Biological twinning (Bulmer symposia) HALL 1

Chairpersons: Nils Lambalk, NL, Catherine Derom, Belgium

The Genetics of dizygotic twinning - Grant Montgomery, Australia

The Genetics of monozygotic twinning - Bruno Reversade, Singapore

The biology of multiple implantation in twinning – Nils Lambalk, NL

Perinatal reproductive endocrinology in twins – Esther Kuijper, NL

PRECONGRESS COURSE 2 : Twin monitoring during pregnancy and labour HALL 2

Chairpersons: Gerard H.A. Visser, NL, Andrea L. Tranquilli, Italy

Carbohydrate intolerance in twins - Yariv Yogev, Israel

Outpatient management - Liesbeth Lewi, Belgium

The standard antepartum care of twin gestations – Mark Kilby, UK

Antenatal assessment of fetal condition in discordant twins – Gerard H.A. Visser, NL

Fetal behaviour and heart rate patterns in twins – Iva Tendais, Portugal

The assessment of neurodevelopment of twins by a new test based on 3D-4D sonography – Asim Kurjak, Croatia

Intrapartum assessment of the fetus - Isis Amer-Wahlin, Sweden

Case presentation by participants

PRECONGRESS COURSE 3 : COMBO: The Multiple Birth Association Studies HALL 3

Chairperson: K. Weatherall, Canada

Twins around the world: some love them , some hate them - Alessandra Piontelli, Italy

TBA - Jane Denton, UK

PRECONGRESS COURSE 4: How to set up a Twin Center HALL 4

Chairperson: Jan Deprest, Belgium

Implementing a fetoscopic laser unit - Jan Deprest, Belgium

Fetoscopic laser ablation for TTTS - Mark Kilby, UK

TBA – Ruben Quintero, Eftichia Kontopoulos, USA

18:00 pm - 19:30 pm

OPENING CEREMONY

Salone del Cinquecento – Palazzo Vecchio, Florence

OPENING SESSION

Authorities, Officers

Chairpersons: Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy, Tim Spector, UK

Remarks from the Honorary Presidents: Louis Keith, USA, Isaac Blickstein, Israel, Nils Lambalk, NL

Opening lecture: The Story of God: twin studies on religion – Lord R. Winston (UK)

20:00 pm - 21:30 pm

WELCOME RECEPTION

Monday Morning, April 2

Congress venue: Sheraton Congress Centre , Florence

8.30 am – 09.30 am

SESSION 1A: Preconceptional aspects of multiple pregnancy HALL 1

Chairpersons: Gian Franco Scarselli, Italy, Lali Sichinava, Russia

ART vs. spontaneous conception of twins – Tullia Todros, Italy

Reducing iatrogenic twinning: the UK experience – Jane Denton, UK

The effect of fetal loss on pregnancy outcome: Lessons from assisted reproductive technology – Barbara Luke, USA

SESSION 1B: Cerebral palsy in twins HALL 2

Chairpersons: Isaac Blickstein, Israel, Virgilio Carnielli, Italy

Chorionicity and cerebral palsy - Isaac Blickstein, Israel

Is cerebral palsy in babies resulting from ART related to twinning?- Dan Farine, Canada

The different origin of cerebral palsy in twins – Mariarosaria di Tommaso, Italy

Cerebral palsy in multiples - can we detect it antenatally? – Asim Kurjak, Croatia

8.30 am – 09.30 am

SESSION 1C: Twinning rates: new findings and current trends HALL 3

Chairperson: Nancy Segal, USA

TBA – Jeroen Smiths, NL

TBA – Catherine Derom, Belgium

TBA – Axel Skytthe, Denmark

9.30 am – 10.00 am

HALL 1

KEYNOTE LECTURE: Systems Biology and Twin studies – Gert Van Ommen, NL

Chairperson: Dorret Boomsma, NL

10:00 am -10:30 am

COFFEE BREAK

10:30 am – 12:30 am

PARALLEL SESSION 2A: Obstetrical issues in twin pregnancy (I) HALL 1

Chairpersons: Raul Artal, USA, Tullia Todros, Italy

Diagnosis of multiple gestation: emphasis on assessment of chorionicity and its implications – Corinne Hubinont, Belgium

The placenta in multiple gestations – Liesbeth Lewi, Belgium

Weight gain in twin pregnancy – Raul Artal, USA

Prediction and prevention of preeclampsia in twin gestation – Kypros Nicolaides, UK

Carbohydrate metabolism in multiple gestations – Moshe Hod, Israel

Ethical challenges in the management of multiple gestations – Frank A. Chervenak, USA

10.30 am – 12.30 am

PARALLEL SESSION 2B: Genetic epidemiology: Aging and twins HALL 3

Chairpersons: Nancy Pedersen, Sweden, Kaare Christensen, Denmark

12:30 am - 13:30 pm

LUNCH BREAK, POSTER VIEW, EXHIBITION

FOYER

Monday afternoon

13:30 pm – 15:30 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 3A: Obstetrical issues in twin pregnancy (II) HALL 1

Chairpersons: Peter Soothill, UK, Anton Mikhailov, Russia

Echocardiography in twin gestations - Nicky Manning, UK

Twin pregnancy and loss (including vanishing twins) - Giovanni B. La Sala, Italy, Isaac Blickstein, Israel

The UK approach to screening for chromosomal abnormalities in twin pregnancies - Peter Soothill, UK

Multi-fetal reduction – Aris Antsaklis, Greece

Invasive prenatal diagnosis in twins – Giovanni Monni, Italy

Fetal growth disorders in twins – Eduard Gratacos, Spain

Single twin demise and its consequences – Mark Kilby, UK

Monochorionic twins discordant for anomalies – Eftichia Kontopoulos, USA

13:30 pm – 15:00 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 3B: Epidemiology and outcome of multiple pregnancies HALL 2

Chairpersons: Anja Pinborg, Denmark, Regina Torloni, Brazil

Rates of multiple pregnancies per region and country – Joshua Vogel, Mario Merialdi, WHO Switzerland

Evaluation of multiple pregnancy outcomes: the Nordic database – Anna Karina Henningsen, Denmark

Epidemiology of mono- and dichorionic twins – Dan Farine, Canada

The changing pattern of multiple births in the United States – Barbara Luke, USA

Rates of maternal and perinatal mortality and severe morbidity in multiple vs. singleton pregnancies – Joshua Vogel, Mario Merialdi, WHO Switzerland

Risk of stillbirth near term in mono- and dichorionic twins – Basky Thilaganathan, UK

PARALLEL SESSION 3C: Genetics of complex disease **HALL 3**

Chairperson: Nick Martin, Australia

Transcriptomics and lipidomics of adipose tissue in obesity-discordant monozygotic twins – Kirsi Pietilainen, Finland

Results of twin studies confirmed by DNA studies – Robert Plomin, UK

15:30 pm - 16:00 pm

TEA BREAK

16:00 pm – 18:00 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 4A: Neonatal issues in raising twins **HALL 3**

Chairpersons: Gian Paolo Donzelli, Italy, Xavier Carbonell-Estrany, Spain

Postnatal care and follow-up – G. Corsello, Italy

Breastfeeding initiation and duration in twins - Jane Denton, UK

Mono twins are better in stereo: effects of biological maternal sounds on cardiorespiratory and growth outcomes in extremely preterm twins – Amir Lahav, USA

Neurocognitive and growth outcomes: monozygotic versus dizygotic – Karen E. Hack, NL

Neurocognitive and brain lesions – Luca Ramenghi, Italy

Fetal motor and postural development in twins – Linda De Vries, NL

16:00 pm – 18:00 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 4B: Use of twins in genetic epidemiology of cancer **HALL 4**

Chairpersons: Jaakko Kaprio, Finland, Jennifer Harris, Norway

Cancer and longevity – is there a trade-off? A study of co-occurrence in Danish twin pairs born 1900-1918 – Kaare Christensen, Denmark

16:30 pm – 18:00 pm

DOCUMENTARY SESSION: "The lone twin"

HALL 1

Film director: Anna Van der Wee, Belgium

Introduction: Nancy Segal, USA

20:30 pm

FACULTY DINNER

Tuesday Morning, April 3

Congress venue: Sheraton Congress Centre , Florence

8:30 am – 10:00 am

SESSION 5: Epigenetics in twins HALL 1

Chairpersons: Tim Spector, UK, TBA

The role of epigenetics in determining behavior - Mike Meany, Canada

How many hereditary traits are epigenetic in nature? - Jeff Craig, Australia

Epigenetic changes in the brain and their consequences - Jon Mill, UK

10:00 am - 10:30 am

COFFEE BREAK

10:30 am – 12:30 am

PARALLEL SESSION 6A: Obstetrical issues in twin pregnancy (III) HALL 1

Chairpersons: Ruben Quintero, USA, Enrico Ferrazzi, Italy

Twin-to-twin Transfusion Syndrome: general overview – Ruben Quintero, USA

The diagnostic criteria for twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome – Ruben Quintero, USA

The staging of twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome – should it be revisited? – Kurt Hecher, Germany

Bipolar cord coagulation in complicated monochorionic pregnancies – Mariangela Rustico, Mariano Matteo Lanna, Italy

The optimal treatment of twin to twin transfusion syndrome – Ramen Chmait, USA

Prevention of preterm birth after fetoscopy in twin pregnancies – Elena Carreras, Spain

10:30 am – 12:30 am

PARALLEL SESSION 6B: Use of twins in genetic epidemiology HALL 3

Chairpersons: Jacqueline Vink, NL, Mike Neale, USA

12:30 am - 13:30 pm

LUNCH BREAK, POSTER VIEW, EXHIBITION

FOYER

Tuesday afternoon

13:30 pm – 15:30 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 7A: Obstetrical issues in twin pregnancy (IV) HALL 1

Chairpersons: Roberto Romero, USA, Lilliana Voto, Argentina

Prediction of preterm delivery in twin gestations – Sonia Hassan, USA

The value of fetal fibronectin test with women with multiple pregnancies – Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy

Prevention and management of PTB in twins – Vincenzo Berghella, USA

The twin uterus: too irritable, too relaxed – Eduardo da Fonseca, Brasil

Round table: Controversies about the preventive use of progesterone

Progesterone prophylaxis in twin pregnancy: a re-evaluation – Fabio Facchinetti, Italy

Is progesterone effective in reducing preterm birth and neonatal morbidity? - Roberto Romero, USA

13:30 pm – 15:30 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 7B: Use of twins in genetic epidemiology: Cardiovascular and metabolic aspects **HALL 3**

Chairpersons: Harold Snieder, NL, Matt McGue, USA

Obesity and diabetes: the twin epidemics. Findings from studies on obesity-discordant MZ twins - Kirsi Pietilainen, Finland

PARALLEL SESSION 7C: ICOMBO: Multiple Birth Organization Presentations **HALL 4**

Chairperson: Kimberley Weatherall, Canada

15:30 pm - 16:00 pm

TEA BREAK

16:00 pm – 18:00 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 8A: Social and psychological issues in twin research **HALL 1**

Chairpersons: Antonia Stazi, Italy, Piera Brustia, Italy

Keynote lecture: Social Inequality in health - A discordant twin-pair study – Kaare Christensen, Denmark

16:00 pm – 18:00 pm

PARALLEL SESSION 8B: INTREPID: an international Network of Twin Registries **HALL 4**

Chairpersons: Dedra Buchwald, USA, Joonhoon Sung, Korea

Twins: a unique opportunity for molecular genetic studies - Nick A. Martin, Australia

The environment in twins: from passive to active models of experience – Robert Plomin, UK

17:00 pm – 18:00 pm

EVENING SESSION: Books, media and twins HALL 3

Coordinators: David Teplica, USA, Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Italy

Which twin is which: are obstetricians able to correctly label twins? – Basky Thilaganathan, UK

Monozygotic mirroring, anatomic predetermination and refinement of the twin method - David Teplica, USA

Wednesday morning, April 4

Congress venue: Sheraton Congress Centre, Florence

8:30 am – 10:30 am

PARALLEL SESSION 9A: Obstetrical issues in twin pregnancy (V) HALL 1

Chairpersons: Gerard H.A. Visser, NL, Tiziana Frusca, Italy

Optimal length of gestation in multiples - Karien E. Hack, NL

Delivery of the term twin: on the threshold of the truth – Jon Barret, Canada

Different outcomes between the first and second twin – Steve Carroll, Ireland

Labour induction of twins – Mike Robson, Ireland

Intrapartum care of twins – Gerard H. A. Visser, NL

Controversies in the mode of the delivery of twins – Mario Merialdi, WHO Switzerland

Vaginal delivery in monozygotic twins: Is it safe? – Teresa Rodrigues, Portugal

How to avoid unnecessary caesarean delivery in twin gestation – Birgit Arabin, Germany

Post-partum hemorrhage among mothers of twins – Louis Keith, USA

8:30 am – 10:30 am

PARALLEL SESSION 9B: Epigenetic Twin Studies HALL 3

Chairpersons: Jordana Bell, UK, Robert Lyle, UK

The peri/postnatal epigenetic twin study - epigenetic change in early postnatal life – Jeff M. Craig, Australia

8:30 am – 15:00 pm

Hologic European Perinatal Focus Group Meeting HALL 2

10:30 am - 11:00 am

COFFEE BREAK

11.00 am - 13.00 am

SESSION 10A: Monozygotic twins: further problems? HALL 1

Chairpersons: Graziano Clerici, Italy, Nuno Montenegro, Portugal

Why are monozygotic twins different? – Alexandra Matias, Portugal

The diagnosis and management of TRAP sequence– Jan Deprest, Belgium

Anemia-polycythemia sequence in monozygotic twins- Lucia Pasquini, Italy

What can a perinatal cardiologist offer to the management of monozygotic twin pregnancies? – Nicky Manning, UK

Delivery of monochorionic twins - primum non nocere - Jon Barret, Canada

The optimal timing of delivery of monochorionic twins – Rhona Mahony, Ireland

Monoamniotic twin management – Vedran Stefanovic, Finland

11.00-11.30

Keynote lecture: The origins of social behaviour - H. Cronqvist (USA) HALL 3

Chairperson: Louis Keith, USA

11:30 pm – 13:00 pm

SESSION 10B: Use of twins in behaviour genetics: Psychiatry and Neuropsychology HALL 3

Chairperson: Robert Plomin, UK

Psychological aspects of the parent-child relationship in twins – Leonardo De Pascalis and Marcella Paterlini, Italy

Studies of brain structure and function of twins: getting closer to the genetics of behavior? – Nick Martin, Australia

Twin models for psychiatric disorders development - TBA

13:00 am - 13:30 am

AWARD CEREMONY AND CLOSING REMARKS - TWINS 2015 HALL 1

Gian Carlo Di Renzo, Tim Spector, Nils Lambalk

**The Joint 2nd World Congress on Twin Pregnancy
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