1. The authors describe this study as a chart review. What does this mean? Is it an accurate description of the study design? What are the strengths and limitations of this type of study? Is there another name for this type of study? Review different kinds of studies, including case control, observational, and cohort.

2. The authors selected four controls per case. How do you select the ratio of cases to controls, and why is this important? How might a 1:1 study design change the findings compared with a 1:4 ratio or 1:8 ratio?

3. Review how the authors selected the controls. What is important to consider in selecting the controls for this study? How did the authors mitigate bias in the controls? What are other things you might consider in selecting the controls?

4. The authors identified two “control” groups—why? How would you select control groups? Given that they had two control groups, was the ratio 1:4 or 1:2 cases to controls? How does this affect the findings?

5. The authors were interested in looking at the rates of pregnancy outcomes in women after bariatric surgery. What outcomes did they select to examine? Are there other outcomes that might be affected and be of interest to be evaluated?

6. The authors found that there were more small-for-gestational-age (SGA) babies of women who had bariatric surgery as compared to babies of the morbidly obese women. They also found an increase in macrosomic infants, although not as significant. What do you believe is the mechanism for these two findings?

7. In your patient population, how many patients are overweight, obese and morbidly obese? How many patients in your practice have had bariatric surgery?

8. Review the different types of bariatric surgery and the implications of these interventions on pregnancy. How do you counsel these women? What nutritional deficiencies and other medical complications are they at risk for after these procedures?

9. Do you recommend bariatric surgery to your morbidly obese patients who are interested in pregnancy? How do you counsel them regarding the risks and benefits?

10. Will the findings from this analysis change your practice? How?