Maternal and Pregnancy-Related Factors Associated With Developmental Delay in Moderately Preterm–Born Children

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1. Review the construct, domains, and validity of the Ages and Stages Questionnaire. Discuss its applicability and relevance to the authors’ study objectives.

2. The authors did not correct age for prematurity. Do you agree with their decision? Why or why not?

3. How was gestational age determined? If the estimate of gestational age were incorrect, what outcome variables would have been affected?

4. The authors used small for gestational-age (SGA) as a proxy for intrauterine growth restriction. Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this approach. The Practice Bulletin No. 134: “Fetal Growth Restriction” is a helpful resource for a discussion of this question and #8.

5. Review the list of variables employed in this study (Table 1). How did the authors select these variables for testing? When were the variables selected? Discuss whether the P value should be adjusted for multiple tests.

6. How many variables did the authors incorporate into their multivariable analysis? Discuss guidelines for limits on the number of variables in multivariable modeling.

7. Discuss the role of postnatal prevention of and interventions for developmental delay. How did the authors account for this factor in the Ages and Stages Questionnaire scores at 4 years of age?

8. The authors argue for investment in primary prevention of preterm delivery and intrauterine growth restriction rather than secondary prevention in high-risk pregnancies. Do you agree with their recommendation? If so, what primary prevention methods do you use in your practice?