

## Fetal hemoglobin glycation may reflect hyperglycemia in utero

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(HealthDay)—Glycation of the  $\alpha$ -chain (Gl $\alpha$ ) in fetal hemoglobin is higher in neonates from women with gestational diabetes mellitus and may reflect hyperglycemia exposure in utero, according to a study published online July 10 in *Diabetes Care*.

Felix O. Dupont, from the Centre de Recherche du Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Sherbrooke in Canada, and colleagues conducted a case-control study involving 37 women with gestational diabetes mellitus and 30 pregnant women with normal glucose tolerance. They measured the percentage of glycated hemoglobin in cord blood using a unique mass spectrometry method.

The researchers found that in neonates from women with gestational diabetes mellitus, Gl $\alpha$  was higher (2.32 versus 2.20 percent; P



gestational diabetes mellitus group: r = 0.66; P

"Thus,  $Gl\alpha$  may reflect hyperglycemic exposure during the last weeks of fetal development," the authors write. "Future studies will confirm  $Gl\alpha$  is a predictive biomarker of prenatally programmed lifetime metabolic health and disease."

**More information:** Abstract

Full Text (subscription or payment may be required)

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