Gestational Diabetes Screening: The International Association of the Diabetes and Pregnancy Study Groups Compared With Carpenter-Coustan Screening

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1. Outline the current approach used to diagnose gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) at your center. How does the prevalence of GDM in your population compare to the prevalence observed in the study population? Discuss the potential reasons for differences in GDM prevalence between your population and the study population.

2. Identify the primary outcome and key secondary outcomes of this study. Discuss whether you agree or disagree with the primary outcome as the most important outcome to consider when evaluating the diagnostic strategy for GDM. Identify any other clinically important outcomes that are not examined in this study.

3. Discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the study design. What alternative study designs can be used to accomplish the study objective? Outline what you consider the best design for the objectives of this study.

4. Review Figures 2 and 3 in the article, which illustrate the before and after protocols for the diagnosis of GDM at the study center. Identify which protocol is most applicable at your institution and discuss similarities and differences between your institution’s protocols and the protocols described in the study.

5. Summarize the key study results. Patients with HgA$_1c$ of 6.5 or higher were included in the “after” (International Association of the Diabetes and Pregnancy Study Groups [IADPSG]) group as having gestational diabetes. Do you agree or disagree with this approach? What is the potential effect of this inclusion on the study results?

6. Review the characteristics of the study population (see Table 1 in the article). Discuss whether or not the study results are applicable to the population at your center or practice.

7. What standard growth curve was used for the diagnosis of large for gestational age (LGA)? Discuss whether or not you expect the prevalence of LGA to change from one period to the next. Discuss whether or not the sample size of this study is adequate to assess this primary outcome.

8. Taking into consideration the study findings and the 2013 National Institutes of Health consensus statement on diagnosing GDM [see NIH Consens State Sci Statements 2013;29:1–31] discuss if you would recommend for or against using the one-step IADPSG approach for GDM diagnosis.