

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HIGH HAEMOGLOBIN A1c

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The information gained from this new technique is important and might be two fold. This technic has become a useful additional way of evaluating blood sugar control a posteriori. A trend to have with certain laboratory technics lower haemoglobin A1c levels in normal pregnancy and this should be taken into account when blood sugar control has to be appreciated during pregnancy. Normal HbA1c levels correlate well with the normalisation of the blood sugar as assessed by home monitoring of the blood glucose during the day. High prepregnancy levels of HbA1c indicates that the prepregnancy blood sugars have not been optimal and therefore may jeopardize the outcome of the pregnancy. An association with abnormally high blood sugar levels, high HbA1c levels and high birthweight for gestational age has been formed. In addition, the mechanisms related to the glycosylation of haemoglobin might foster a better understanding of the genesis of congenital malformations. The changes which occur during the glycosylation are not insulin dependent but are affected by the elevations of blood sugar levels which are subordinated to insulin lack. The glycosylation of fetal proteins in sensitive organs may occur and be responsible for structural anomalies to appear. This might be one of the causes of certain malformations.

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