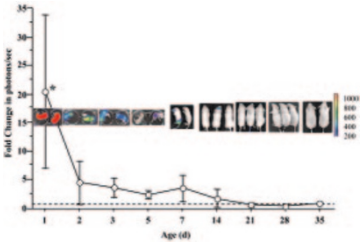
EDITOR'S FOCUS



Age-dependent downregulation of murine cerebral cortical hemoxygenase-1 gene expression is not due to methylation of a 283 bp CpG island region in the promoter as determined by methylation sensitive polymerase chain reaction.

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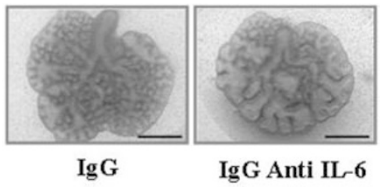

IL6 induced pulmonary branching by involving the p38-MAPK intracellular signaling pathway in the rat fetus. This may be a mechanism by which chorioamnionitis promotes fetal lung maturation.

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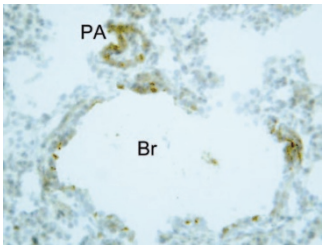

High mortality in congenital diaphragmatic hernia is principally due to persistent pulmonary hypertension that is resistant to conventional therapy. Using Pinacidil, a KATP channel opener, and glibenclamide (GLI) a KATP blocker, in-vivo and in-vitro demonstrated that activation of KATP channels reduces the pulmonary vascular tone in fetal lambs with CDH supporting development of other therapeutic targets.

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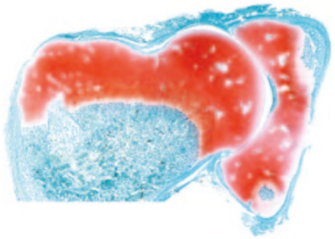

Developmental dysplasia of the hip may precipitate hip osteoarthritis. This investigation supports a role for increased birth weight in altering the course of hip development pre-empting measurable degenerative changes in adulthood.

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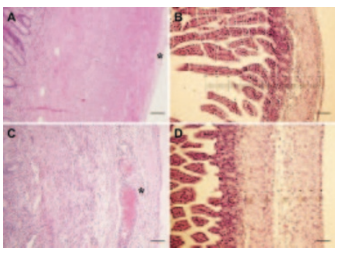

Gastroschisis was associated with a sub-chronic inflammatory process involving macrophages that secrete ferritin, neopterin and calprotectin, as noted in the amniotic fluid and the fibrous peel covering the bowel.

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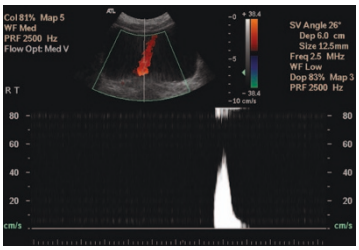

Ultrasound examination of enuretic children that detected bilateral immature ureteric jet waveforms and markedly thickened bladder wall demonstrated multiple significant urodynamic abnormalities perhaps related to vesico-ureteric junction and detrusor muscle immaturity.

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