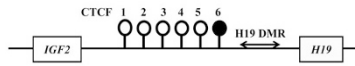


## EDITOR'S FOCUS

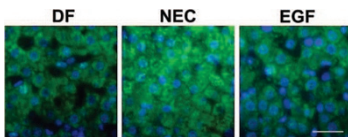
The frequency of haplotype CTG from the paternal allele forming a genetic variant of the IGF2 gene in small-for-date Japanese infants was significantly higher than that in non-small-for-date control infants. However no differences between the DNA methylation status of H19/IGF2 genes in the two haplotypes were observed.

**See page 138**



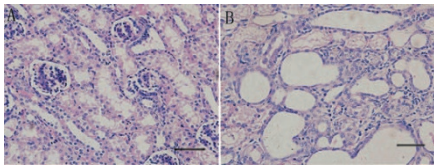
In a rat model of necrotizing enterocolitis, hepatic tight and adherens junction proteins were significantly altered. EGF mediated a reduction of experimental necrotizing enterocolitis and protected the hepatic integrity and structure. Also see Li *et al.*, pp 203, where enterally provided lactobacillus rhamnosus GG (LGG) in rats decreased lipopolysaccharide induced pro-inflammatory and increased anti-inflammatory mediators.

**See page 143**



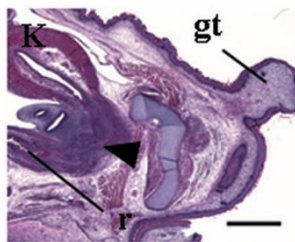
Ureteral obstruction in fetal lambs caused renal cortical cysts, interstitial tissue fibrosis, decreased number of glomeruli, severe podocyte foot process fusion, increased paired box-2 (PAX-2) and decreased vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF) expression. In-utero relief of the obstruction reversed these changes, lending credence to attenuation of the presenting nephropathy.

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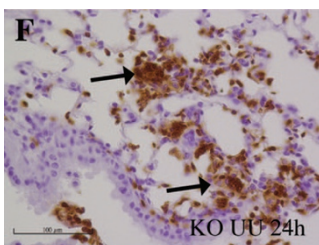
Wnt5a that is downstream of sonic hedgehog signaling and axin2 that is regulated by wnt5a, both affect the normal development of the proximal part of the cloacal plate as determined in mouse models.

**See page 152**



Surfactant protein A (SP-A), deficient mice inoculated intratracheally with *Ureaplasma parvum*, developed an exaggerated inflammatory response with a delay in *U. parvum* clearance, while co-administration of exogenous SP-A attenuated the inflammatory response alone. Also see Walls *et al.*, pp 197, where azithromycin ameliorates ureaplasma and oxygen induced lung disease in wild type mice, improving survival and decreasing morbidity due to lung inflammation.

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In preterm infants with hypoxic-ischemic encephalopathy, placental abruption, not evidence of infection, was the most commonly identifiable antecedent event that led to significant central gray matter and brainstem injury, with early neonatal MRI providing accurate prediction of neurodevelopmental outcome at two years of age.

**See page 225**

