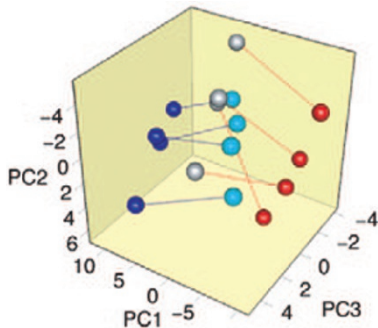


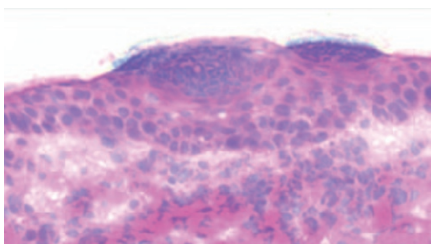
doi:10.1038/pr.2014.61

Angiotensin II and fetal heart growth



Norris *et al.* measured cardiomyocyte proliferation and morphology in angiotensin II (ANG II)-treated fetal sheep and assessed transcriptional pathway responses. In twin-gestation pregnant sheep, one fetus received ANG II or losartan for seven days; noninstrumented twins served as controls. The results suggest that ANG II leads to an increase in fetal cardiac mass via cardiomyocyte hypertrophy and hyperplasia. [See page 689](#)

C. albicans in fetal sheep



Payne *et al.* hypothesized that intra-amniotic *Candida albicans* would cause an acute inflammatory response. Pregnant sheep received single intra-amniotic injections of saline or *C. albicans* one or two days prior to surgical delivery. Acute colonization

of the amniotic cavity by *C. albicans* appeared to cause severe intrauterine infection and inflammation.

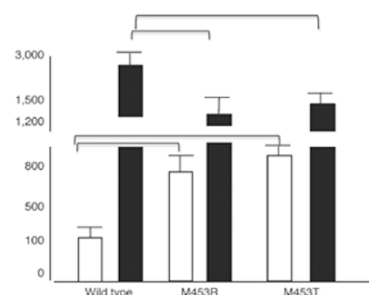
[See page 716](#)

Attention deficits



de Kieviet and colleagues investigated the brain abnormalities associated with later attention problems in very-preterm children by examining white and gray brain matter using functional magnetic resonance imaging. They found that alterations in white matter play a crucial role in interference-control problems at school age. [See page 731](#)

Gene mutation and hyperthyroidism



In a Japanese family with nonautoimmune hyperthyroidism, Nakamura and coinvestigators identified a mutation in the thyrotropin receptor gene that might contribute to the disease's pathogenesis. [See page 749](#)

aEEG in preterm infants



Natalucci and colleagues aimed to quantify the effects of gestational age and postnatal age (PNA) on the development of amplitude-integrated electroencephalogram (aEEG) early after birth in very preterm newborns with normal cerebral ultrasound. Continuous aEEG was performed in newborns during the first 96 hours of life. The results show that aEEG activity develops significantly during this time and is strongly influenced by PNA. [See page 774](#)

Physical activity and liver enzymes



Ruiz and coinvestigators examined the association between physical activity, sedentary time, and liver enzyme levels in adolescents from nine European countries. Their findings suggest that meeting the current recommendations of 60 minutes per day of moderate to vigorous activity is associated with higher levels of alanine aspartate aminotransferase, regardless of sedentary time or total body fat. [See page 798](#)