Title: Gestational Diabetes Mellitus in Volta Region Ghana: Prevalence, Risk Factors and Pregnancy Outcomes

Doctoral Student: Faith Agbozo

Supervisor: Prof. Albrecht Jahn

Funding: Ministry of Education, Ghana and DAAD

Description

Globally, gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM) is rising with increased risk of mother-infant pairs developing type II diabetes in later years. Over the years, focus has been on low birth weight. Now, macrosomia (large baby), an effect of GDM is known to lead to poor infant health and mortality. Appropriate and timely screening and diagnosis and subsequent management are essential to curtail adverse pregnancy outcomes associated with GDM.

The aim of the project is to assess the prevalence of GDM by using recommended guidelines as against the current screening and diagnostic tools used in Ghana; identify maternal risk factors; examine effects on maternal and neonatal pregnancy outcomes; and assess blood glucose levels of maternal-infant pairs diagnosed with GDM during postpartum.

The analytical study involving pregnant women and their newborns will be conducted over a 12-months period at the antenatal, labour ward and postnatal clinics of public and private hospitals in the Volta region. Findings from this study could lead to timely management of GDM by providing empirical data on effective screening and diagnostic tools that will be most implementable in diverse healthcare settings.

Time Frame: 3 years

Contact: INF 324, 69120, Heidelberg, Germany
                Faith.agbozo@uni-heidelberg.de