

Speaker: Anne Cathrine Staff, University of Oslo, and Oslo University Hospital, Oslo, Norway

“Preeclampsia biomarkers: more than you think”

Low maternal circulating concentration of placental growth factor (PlGF) and high concentration of soluble Flt1 (sFlt1) have been investigated over more than a decade as diagnostic and prediction marker of preeclampsia. The prognostic and diagnostic precision of these biomarkers are however best for the early-onset type of the preeclampsia syndrome.

The talk will argue that these angiogenic biomarkers do not represent biomarkers of the preeclampsia syndrome as such, but rather represent broader markers for syncytiotrophoblast stress. These biomarkers thereby may have broader implications for several forms of placentally associated pregnancy complications. These complications are common and represent major threats to maternal and/or offspring health globally. The presentation will also argue how a revised two-stage placenta model of preeclampsia fits with what these placenta-associated biomarkers are telling us.