Intestinal defense mechanisms in the neonate

1. Intestinal threonine metabolism, barrier function and mucosal growth is reduced in preterm piglets fed formula compared to colostrum and predisposes them to NEC. *(dit proefschrift)*

2. Colostrum feeding increases luminal threonine absorption and improves epithelial protection by stimulation of mucin MUC2 synthesis. *(dit proefschrift)*

3. In breast fed infants, the intestinal microbiota produce a specific composition of short chain fatty acids which improves mucin production, imperative for intestinal protection. *(dit proefschrift)*

4. Probiotics do not have an anabolic effect on neonatal growth but do lead to localized stimulation of mucosal defense. *(dit proefschrift)*

5. Partial enteral nutrition is of major importance for intestinal blood flow and hence nutrient supply to the neonatal gut. *(dit proefschrift)*

6. Planned home birth is associated with a tripling of the neonatal mortality rate and should be strongly discouraged. *(Am J Obstet Gynecol 2010;203:243.e1-8)*


8. To reduce the risk of preterm labor, partners should volunteer to take over all repetitive boring home tasks from their pregnant partner. *(Eur J Epidemiol 2010;25:421-9)*

9. Implementation of paternity leave might decrease paternal postnatal depression and improve behavioral and emotional development of the child. *(Lancet 2005;365:2201-05)*

10. Misplaced dedication of residents by working when sick should be discouraged by program directors given the potential risks for patients and colleagues related to illness and errors. *(JAMA 2010;304:1166-68)*

11. All bacteria are equal, but some bacteria are more equal than others.

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