Cardiovascular health in pregnant women and their children
The Generation R Study

Propositions

1. The first pregnancy is a risk factor for suboptimal maternal hemodynamic adaptations, pregnancy complications and adverse cardiovascular outcomes in the offspring. (*This thesis*)

2. Higher maternal prepregnancy body mass index is a risk factor for adverse cardiovascular outcomes in the offspring via direct intra-uterine programming and other mechanisms. (*This thesis*)

3. Maternal gestational weight gain in early pregnancy might be critical for cardiovascular health in the offspring. (*This thesis*)

4. Third trimester feto-placental vascular dysfunction is associated with persistent cardiovascular adaptations at school age. (*This thesis*)

5. First trimester fetal development might be a critical period for cardiovascular health in later life. (*This thesis*)

6. Poor fetal and early postnatal nutrition imposes mechanisms of nutritional thrift upon the growing individual. (*Barker DJ, Int J Epidemiol 2013*)

7. To find determinants of prevalence and incidence rates, we need to study characteristics of populations, not characteristics of individuals.
(*Rose G, Int J Epidemiol 1985*)

8. Lowering the price of 'good foods' would be better than taxing 'bad foods' in reducing obesity. (*Winkler JT, BMJ 2013*)

9. The close links among poverty, inequity, undernutrition, and human deprivation are well known, and all these factors have been shown to reduce the potential for human development considerably.
(*Bhutta ZA, Black RE, N Eng J Med 2013*)

10. Statistics is the grammar of science.
(*Karl Pearson, The Grammar of Science, 1892*)

11. It is only when you hitch your wagon to something larger than yourself that you realize your true potential. (*Barack Obama, College Commencement Address, 2005*)

Romy Gaillard, June 25, 2014