**Research Assessment #4**

**Date:** October 13, 2016

**Subject:** Medicine During the Perinatal Period

**Citation:**

"Age Terminology During the Perinatal Period." *Pediatrics* 114.5 (2004): 1362-364. Web.

"Pain in Children: Recent Advances and Ongoing Challenges." British Journal of Anesthesia, 21 Apr. 2008. Web. 11 Sept. 2016.

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**Assessment:**

As someone who has taken minimal medicine-related class in high school, I have a lot to catch up on. In this assessment, I decided to find an article on terminology in order to increase my knowledge in the terminology of pediatricians. This article was extremely confusing but also filled with information that was beneficial to my journey into the field of medicine.

Through the first article, I learned that Pediatrics has a huge amount of different types of “ages” even before the baby is born, which is astounding because I realize that doctors use this terminology daily. There were a lot of things I didn’t know about that the article expected me to know so I had to google many terms. However, I didn’t mind this because I was learning more and more about my topic. I discovered that a pediatrician must have a really good memory if he/she wants to remember all of these terms but I also realize that daily use of these terms helps with memorization. Many of the terms are so similar like conceptional age and gestational age but there are very small differences that distinguish them apart. When I was reading this article, I had to stop and reread many times in order to truly understand what it was trying to say. The differences between each term were so small, it took me a while before I could see the term later on in the article and immediately remember what it means. As many of my interviewees have said in our interviews, a doctor will only be able to succeed if he/she truly loves to learn and this article has allowed me to see this because someone who does not enjoy learning will not be able to put in the time and effort to memorize these terms and apply them successfully. Fortunately for me, I found it very fascinating to learn about these terms so this makes me feel even better about choosing pediatrics this year in ISM.

The second article has given me some good interview questions to ask to professionals when I go on my visits as well. Many trials have been done with adults, but not much evidence is available for trials involving children. If that is so, then how do pediatricians properly prescribe the correct amount when there is little evidence to back their prescriptions? Furthermore, the article has stated many times that age is a vital factor in many treatments even at young ages such as the post-conceptional age. Isn’t it unreliable that doctors are diagnosing children based on the results of an adult trial then? While there have been great advances in children’s pain management and treatment, I believe this is definitely something pediatricians should focus on. I will definitely ask these questions at my upcoming interviews because I want to gain the viewpoint of someone who is actually working in the field.

The third article has given me some good interview questions to ask to professionals when I go on my visits as well. Many trials have been done with adults, but not much evidence is available for trials involving children. If that is so, then how do pediatricians properly prescribe the correct amount when there is little evidence to back their prescriptions? Furthermore, the article has stated many times that age is a vital factor in many treatments even at young ages such as the post-conceptional age. Isn’t it unreliable that doctors are diagnosing children based on the results of an adult trial then? While there have been great advances in children’s pain management and treatment, I believe this is definitely something pediatricians should focus on. I will definitely ask these questions at my upcoming interviews because I want to gain the viewpoint of someone who is actually working in the field.

I am slowly learning the terminology and catching up on all the knowledge I have missed out on. Hopefully, by the end of this year, I will know much more on medical terminology than I do now.