

Reproductive and Perinatal Epidemiology
Discussion questions for Lecture 10, 2007
Epidemiology of LBW, PTD, and IUGR (I)

Racial Disparity in frequency of recurrence of preterm birth

Kistka et al Amer J Obstet Gynecol 2007;196:131e

1. The population included both spontaneous and induced preterm births. Do you think this is appropriate for this study? How did they separate out the induced from the spontaneous preterm births? Did it make a difference?
2. Why did they focus on PTD between 20-34 weeks and not <37 weeks as is usual?
3. There was a strongly correlation in timing of recurrent PTDs, can you think of any explanation, other than genetic that might explain the timing? What was the timing of recurrent PTDs in black and white women?

First trimester growth and the risk of low birth weight. Smith et al NEJM

1998;339:1817

1. What was the population screened for enrollment in this study and how many were enrolled? How might this affect generalizability?
2. How was timing of conception estimated, and how might this affect ultrasound estimates of fetal growth in the 1st trimester?
3. In figure 1, why is LBW less frequent when the observed to expected crown-rump length was -9 to -8?
4. Can you estimate the proportion of total LBW that is due to poor 1st trimester fetal growth?