

correspondence

Placental Pathology in COVID-19

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To the Editor

We read with interest the article entitled “Placental Pathology in COVID-19.”¹ We would like to call your attention to our series,² which was published online on May 12, 2020. We found that half of our COVID-19 positive cases showed evidence of fetal vascular malperfusion. We believe readers should be aware of the range of findings.

Rebecca N. Baergen, MD

Weill Cornell Medicine

New York, NY

Debra S. Heller, MD

Rutgers-New Jersey Medical School

Newark, NJ

The Authors' Reply

We regret not including the correspondents' publication in our article and are pleased with the

opportunity to recognize their work. Unfortunately, we become aware of the study by Baergen and Heller only after our study was published.^{1,2} Like Baergen and Heller, we found increased rates of features of fetal vascular malperfusion, but in our study they were not significantly above background. It is interesting that Baergen and Heller did not find increased decidual vasculopathy, as we did. As additional data are collected, population differences or other factors explaining these different findings may become apparent. Having several groups working on this vital topic is important to best inform the care of pregnant women during this pandemic.

Jeffery A. Goldstein, MD, PhD (for the authors)

Northwestern University

Chicago, IL

References

1. Shanes ED, Mithal LB, Otero S, et al. Placental pathology in COVID-19. *Am J Clin Pathol.* 2020;154:23-32.
2. Baergen RN, Heller DS. Placental pathology in Covid-19 positive mothers: preliminary findings. *Pediatr Dev Pathol.* 2020;23:177-180.