

EPIDEMIOLOGY OF EPH GESTOSIS

Ernst T. Rippmann, Secretary General, Organisation Gestosis, Gerbergasse 14, 4051 Basel, Switzerland

E-mail: ernst.theodor@rippmann.ch

According to WHO statistics the prenatal mortality is 7.6 million. 98% of those deaths occur in developing countries due to lack of facilities for prenatal care.

We have reported that 40% of all prenatal deaths are in one way or other related to the syndrome of EPH-gestosis. That would mean that about 3.5 million babies die each year because of a pregnancy complication, i.e. EPH-gestosis, a pregnancy (gestation) which is disturbed (... osis) by pathological edema (E), proteinuric (P) and hypertension (H) which could be prevented.

It is therefore our task to detect the many causes of EPH-gestosis to fight this syndrome (not disease!). The overall statement is very clear. It is the neglected woman who suffers from EPH-gestosis. This neglect might mean physically, socially and emotional. And this during her whole span of life.

The Organisation Gestosis has dedicated its work and efforts to this aim for more than forty years.