



Communicating DP-iDP

FWF has additionally funded this project, which is based on our doctoral program “Inflammatory disorders in Pregnancy “

<https://www.medunigraz.at/phd-inflammatory-disorders-in-pregnancy/>

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Abstract

The aim of “Communicating DP-iDP” is to communicate the importance of pregnancy diseases and its associated risks to schoolchildren (7th till 9th grade). Communicating DP-iDP is based on the FWF funded doc.funds program, located at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University Hospital Graz, which investigates the interplay between pregnancy, inflammation and the placenta in maternal and fetal diseases such as preeclampsia or gestational diabetes.

School kids – especially from a so-called *educationally disadvantaged* background – should develop an understanding for risks involved with those pregnancy diseases and discover strategies to prevent their onset. At the same time, a general understanding for the importance of basic research should be gained.

“Communicating DP-iDP” invites schoolchildren to participate at a workshop at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Initially, schoolchildren will receive a general introduction on the issue of pregnancy disorders. Subsequently each group of schoolkids will develop a specific “research question” which will be investigated on one of four “science stations” (delivery room, ward, perfusion lab and microscopy room). Together with experts from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology and researchers from the DP-iDP, schoolchildren interactively try to answer the questions. In a final presentation, each group then presents their findings.

In a final workshop, schoolkids have the chance to reflect on their experiences and contribute to creation of the storyline of an animated video. The videos will help to identify with the general issue but will also generate further attention through sharing with friends and family.

The final video will be presented at a closing event in spring 2022 where participating schoolchildren as well as friends and family will be invited.

“Communicating DP-iDP” pays special attention to the creation of concepts tailored to the specific target groups. Thus, workshops with experts in the field of *social inclusion* and interaction with kids from a *migrational background* are organized to train presenters and participants of the DP-iDP. These workshops focus on strategies to properly interact with the individual target group.