

**Question 46 – Week of May 16**

In women with autoimmune hepatitis:

- A. Fertility is impaired.
- B. Prednisone and azathioprine can be safely stopped during pregnancy.
- C. Experience a low rate of spontaneous abortion.
- D. Often have resolution of the disease during pregnancy
- E. None of the above.

**Answer: A**

Women with autoimmune hepatitis often have impaired fertility, with improvement in fertility with treatment of the disease. Prednisone and azathioprine are continued in pregnancy as there is a risk of flare with discontinuation of these medications. Disease flares also may occur during pregnancy and even post-partum, mandating close monitoring of these patients during and after pregnancy. Women with even well controlled autoimmune hepatitis experience a higher rate of spontaneous abortion ( up to 12 %) and of perinatal deaths ( up to 7%).