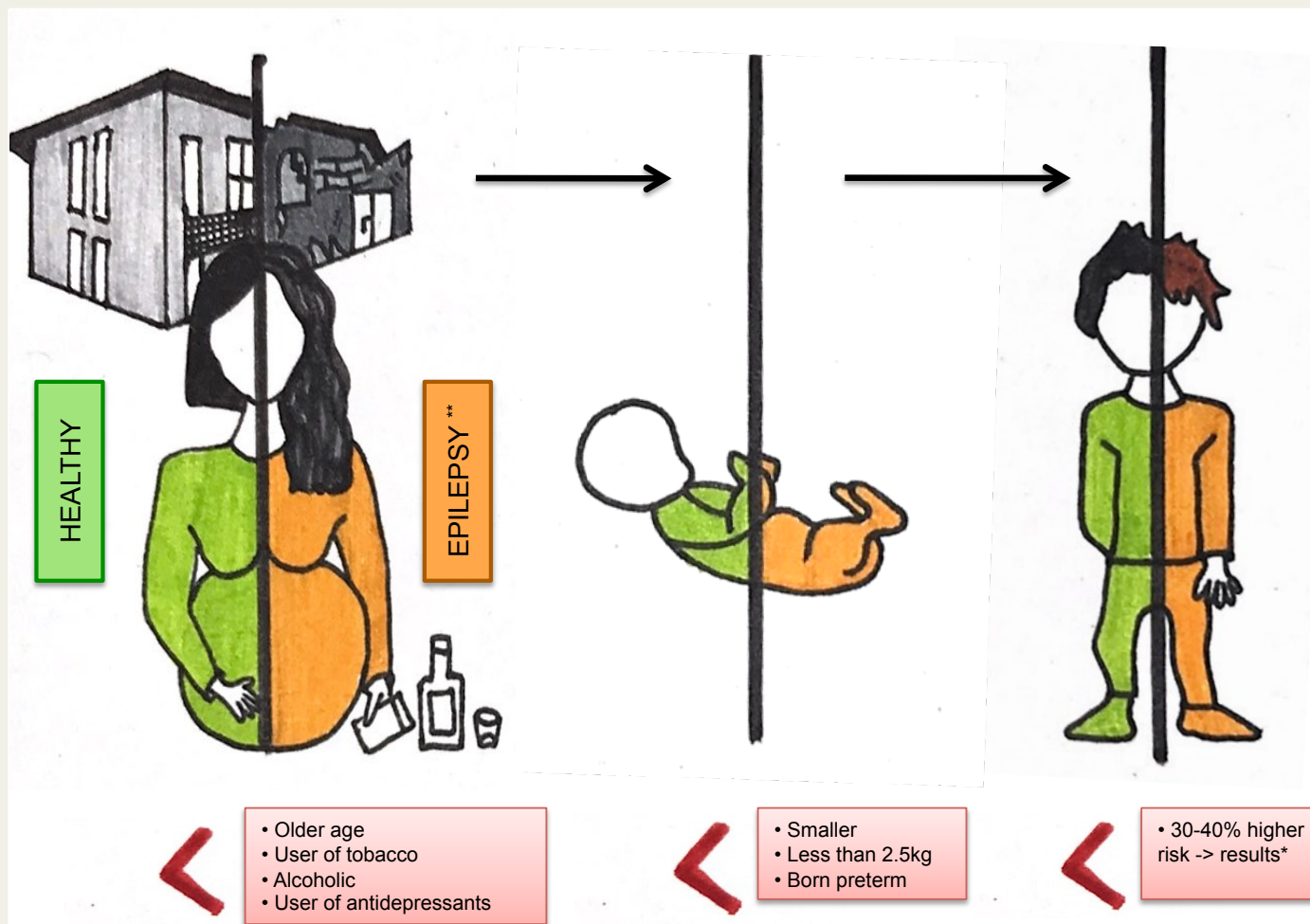


# Mental retardation due to the use of antiepileptic drugs during pregnancy



## Goal:

This poster determines the risk of NDs<sup>1</sup> in a child related to the period of exposure to AED<sup>3</sup>, like the medicine *Valproat*<sup>2</sup>, during pregnancy.

## Results:

➤ If exposed to AED<sup>3</sup> during pregnancy, the child has 4 to 5 times higher risk of early\*:

- NDs<sup>1</sup>,
- disorders of psychological development,
- mental retardation,
- when older will probably need speech therapy.

➤ The results show that AED<sup>3</sup> have different impact according to the period of exposure:

- children exposed during the second and the third trimesters of pregnancy\*\* have a markedly increased risk (even at low doses), unlike the ones exposed only during the first trimester.

## Relevance:

This study is very important, because e.g. nowadays mothers with stress caused by work and pregnancy at the same time, maybe in a moment of low money, can have attacks of epilepsy. Even a good medic would recommend drugs like VPA<sup>2</sup> because mostly of the studies done before this one weren't so specific and hadn't so much data to analyse.

## Glossary:

- <sup>1</sup>**NDs**: neurodevelopmental disorders
- <sup>2</sup>**VPA**: valproate
- <sup>3</sup>**AED**: antiepileptic drugs

## Source:

Risk of early neurodevelopmental disorders associated with in utero exposure to valproate and other antiepileptic drugs: a nationwide cohort study in France. Joël Coste, Pierre-Olivier Blotiere, [...] Rosemary Dray-Spira. Scientific Reports 2020 (17362). DOI: 10.1038/s41598-020-74409-x

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