**Objective**

A short fetal femur in prenatal diagnostics might be associated with IUGR, SGA +/- fetal malformations +/- adverse fetal outcome.

**Methods**

1373 singleton pregnancies with a femoral length < 5th percentile (Verburg et al. 2008) detected between 1999-2015 during 2nd trimester screening in a tertiary prenatal diagnostic center were subjected to a descriptive retrospective analysis with regard to maternal and fetal characteristics as well as pregnancy outcome.

**Results**

- 75 (5.5%) chromosomal aberrations
- Trisomy 13, 18 and 21 in 2, 13 and 27 of the cases
- Fetuses with associated malformations had
  - lower live birth rate (67.6% vs. 98.2%, p <0.001)
  - higher rate of PTB (26.1% vs. 10.3%, p < 0.001)
  - Higher rate of SGA (39.2% vs. 28.2%, p < 0.001)

**Conclusions**

Diagnosis of a fetal femur too short should lead to an extended organ screening; in the case of associated abnormalities additional genetic testing has to be offered as well as intensified pregnancy monitoring in pregnancies at risk for IUGR and/or preterm birth.