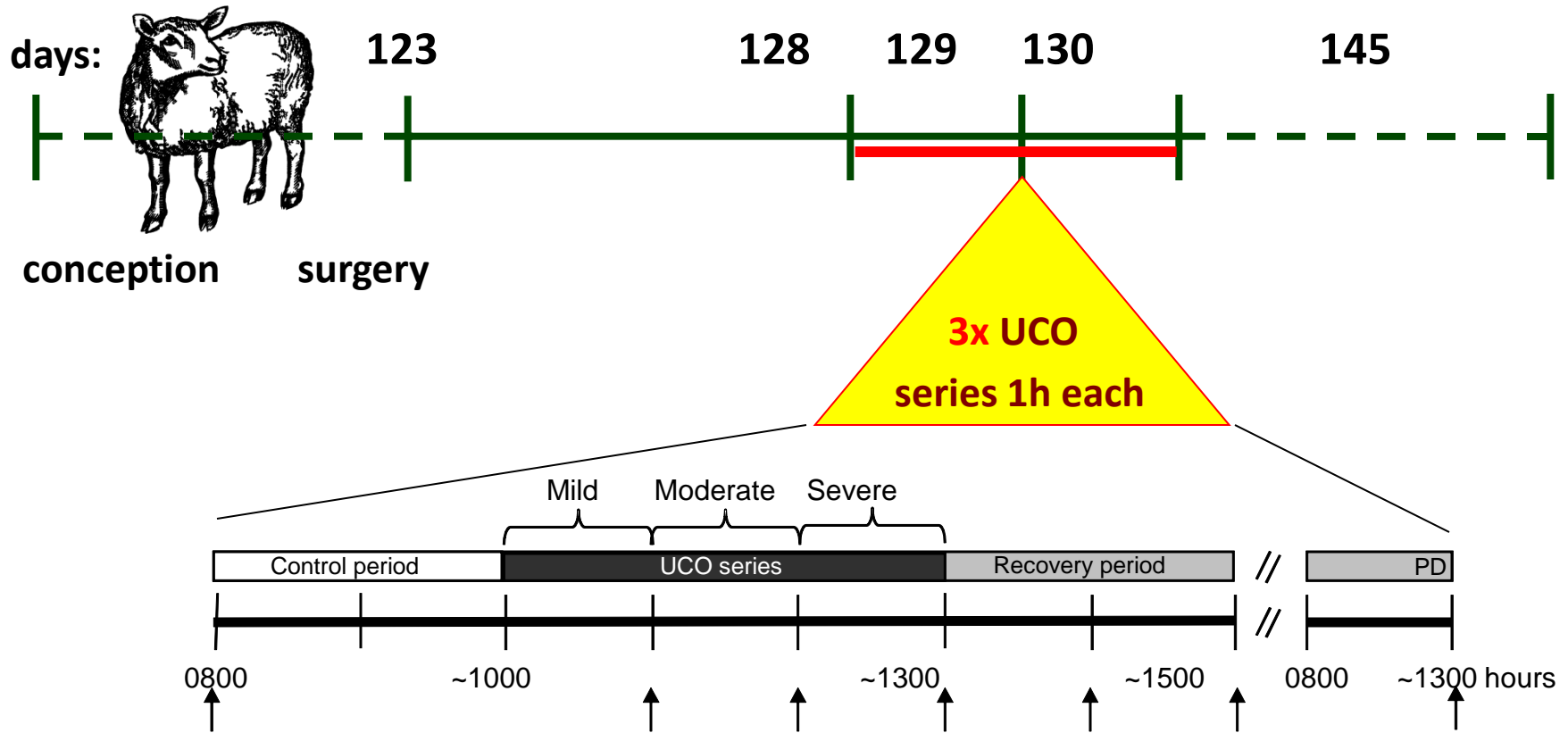


Experimental design: near-term group, n=10

gestational age: 0.84

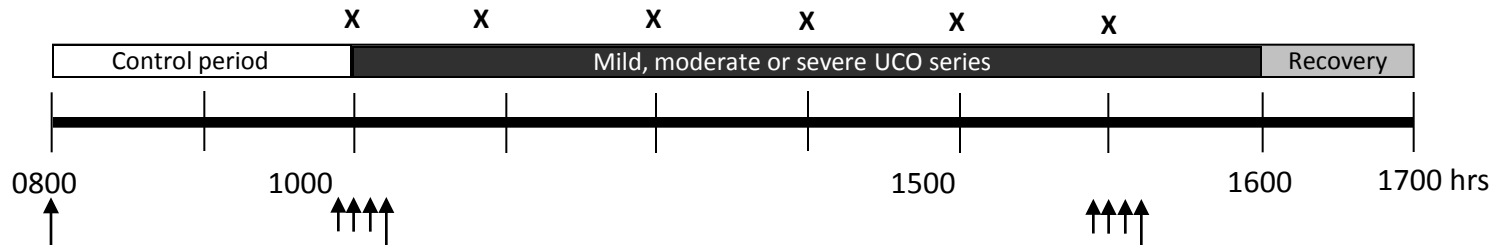
0.89 (human week 35)



- UCO increased in severity mimicking a possible fetal acidosis during human labour:
- Mild (1 min every 5 min); moderate (1 min every 3 min); severe (1 min every 2 min). Each UCO series lasted 1 h or until pH < 7.00.
- Fetal arterial blood sampled at selected time points (↑) for blood gas/pH and plasma IL-1 β .

Experimental design: pre-term group, n=16

- 115±0.2 days of gestation age, corresponding to approximately 31st human week of gestation
- 3 days post-op recovery and baseline recording as in near-term group.
- 4 consecutive days of intermittent UCO vs. a control group.
- RMSSD was calculated from ECG-derived FHRV.



- 4 consecutive days of hourly mild (60 s), moderate (120 s) or severe (180 s) intermittent UCO for 6 h/d vs. a control group.
- Fetal arterial blood samples taken at selected time points (↑) for blood gases/pH and plasma IL-1 β on days 1 and 4.

UCO, Umbilical Cord Occlusion