based on a certain ratio of sFLt-1 and PlGF imminent preeclampsia at the day of patient presentation could be ruled out (Stepan 2010, Z Geburtsh Neonatol 214: 234-238).

However, a reliable assay for ruling-out preeclampsia within a certain time period in an apparently healthy pregnant female is not yet available but nevertheless highly desired.

The technical problem underlying the present ~~invention~~ disclosure can be seen as the provision of means and methods for complying with the aforementioned needs. The technical problem is solved by the embodiments characterized in the claims and herein below.

The present ~~invention~~ disclosure, in a first aspect, relates to a method for diagnosing whether a pregnant subject is not at risk for preeclampsia (i.e. ruling out preeclampsia) within a short window of time comprising:

a) determining the amount of at least one angiogenesis biomarker selected from the group consisting of sFlt-1, Endoglin and PlGF in a sample of said subject; and

b) comparing the amount with a reference, whereby a subject being not at risk for developing preeclampsia within a short period of time is diagnosed if the amount is identical or decreased compared to the reference in the cases of sFlt-1 and Endoglin and identical or increased in the case of PlGF, wherein said reference allows for making the diagnosis with a negative predictive value of at least about 98%.

The method of the present disclosure~~invention~~, preferably, is an ex vivo method. Moreover, it may comprise steps in addition to those explicitly mentioned above. For example, further steps may relate to sample pre-treatments or evaluation of the results obtained by the method. The method may be carried out manually or assisted by automation. Preferably, step (a), and/or (b) may in total or in part be assisted by automation, e.g., by a suitable robotic and sensory equipment for the determination in step (a), a computer-implemented calculation algorithm on a data processing device and/or comparison and/or diagnosis algorithm on a data processing device in step (b).

The present disclosure, in a second aspect, relates to use of at least one of the biomarkers sFlt-1, Endoglin and PlGF or at least one detection agent therefor which specifically bind thereto in a sample of a pregnant subject for diagnosing whether said subject is not at risk for developing preeclampsia within a short period of time.

The present disclosure, in a third aspect, relates to a device adapted for diagnosing whether a pregnant subject is not at risk for developing preeclampsia within a short period of time by carrying out the method as defined herein comprising:

a) an analyzing unit comprising at least one detection agent which specifically binds to at least one angiogenesis biomarker selected from the group consisting of: sFlt-1, Endoglin and PlGF, said unit being adapted for determining the amount of sFlt-1, Endoglin and/or PlGF in a sample of a pregnant subject; and

b) an evaluation unit comprising a data processor having implemented an algorithm for comparing the amount with a reference, whereby a subject being not at risk for developing preeclampsia within a short period of time is diagnosed if the amount is identical or decreased compared to the reference in the cases of sFlt-1 and Endoglin and identical or increased in the case of PlGF, wherein said reference allows for making the diagnosis with a negative predictive value of at least about 98%.

The present disclosure, in a fourth aspect, relates to a kit adapted for carrying out the method as defined herein comprising at least one detection agent for determining the amount of an angiogenesis biomarker selected from the group consisting of: sFlt-1, Endoglin and PlGF, as well as instructions for carrying out the said method.

The term "preeclampsia" as used herein refers to a medical condition which is characterized by hypertension and proteinuria. Preeclampsia occurs in pregnant female