

AN EARLY PREGNANCY OF BROAD LIGAMENT

(A Case Report)

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Secondary pregnancy of broad ligament, primary to the uterine pregnancy of only 12 weeks of gestation without any previous history of surgical intervention is a very rare phenomenon. Hence rarity of the situation prompted us to present the case.

CASE REPORT

Mrs. C. B. Aged 30 years, 4th Gravida, was admitted on 25th March 1980 at 6 p.m. with amenorrhoea of 12 weeks. She had vomiting thrice during the period of last 3 days with absolute constipation. No history of vaginal bleeding was present. She had 3 full term deliveries, last delivery was 3 years back. She was ill-looking. Pulse rate 120/min. and B.P. 100/90 mm. Hg. Abdomen was distended. No visible peristalsis was present. There was generalised tenderness. Intestinal sounds were sluggish. On vaginal examination, uterus was of 10 weeks' size, soft, with restricted mobility. A tender lump of about 2" x 2" size was present on left fornix.

Hb. 8.4 gm%, X-ray revealed the gaseous distension of intestine with soft tissue shadow

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on left side. Thus the diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy was made and laparotomy was planned and done on the same day.

On opening the abdomen, a mass of 4" x 3" was present in broad ligament on left side. The round ligament was attached to its upper and anterior part. The large bowel was distended and bladder surface was looking unhealthy. The mass was opened and a large blood clot with a small macerated foetus with cord and placenta of about 12 weeks was found. Both the tubes were healthy and patent without any recent or remote rent. Ovaries of both the sides were also normal and corpus luteum was present on left ovary. The uterus was opened by hysterotomy and few placental pieces were seen without foetus. The cavity was searched for any rent and in irregular rent was found on the left lateral border. Both the tubes were ligated.

The histopathology report was also suggestive of placental tissue which was removed from the uterine cavity. Her post-operative period was uneventful and the patient was satisfactorily discharged on 10th day.

Comments

The broad ligament pregnancies have been usually reported in elderly fertile women (Peterson and Grant 1975). It is still worth mentioning here that most of these cases are primary to the tubal pregnancies (Chatterjee 1978; Sarin and Jain 1978) and rare to the uterine pregnancy and still rarer in case of gestation period

below 28 weeks. But the present cases was only of 12 weeks gestation which is unusual. We believe that escape of foetus from the uterus through the rent on the left border to the broad ligament might have taken place in this case which is rare in such a period of early pregnancy and in absence of previous history of curetage or attempt for surgical intervention to terminate pregnancy. We can only suggest that previous pregnancy might have weakened the wall of uterus in the present case.

Summary

One case of early broad ligament pregnancy primary to uterine pregnancy is presented here. The possibility of weakness to uterine wall during the previous pregnancies is discussed.

References

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