

CLOSTRIDIAL SEPTAECIMIA—A RARE COMPLICATION OF SEPTIC ABORTION

by

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Clostridial septaemia is the most serious, dangerous, rarest and severest complication of septic abortion caused by organism *Clostridium welchii*. Invasion of this organism in blood stream is a rare terminal event. A case of clostridial Septaemia is being reported for its rarity.

CASE REPORT

Smt. S.D. 35 years was admitted in R.M.C.H., Ranchi on 6-4-82 at 7.30 P.M. in a state of shock. Patient was in semiconscious state. Immediately resuscitative measures were carried out. She was para 5, last child 3 years back. Four days back some stick was inserted locally by some dai for termination of her three months pregnancy. Next day she developed pain in abdomen, vaginal bleeding, fever and the stick was removed. She passed small quantity of high coloured urine. There was puffiness of the face and distension of the lower abdomen.

Patient was dyspnoeic with marked pallor and cyanosis. Her pulse was fast, thready, B.P. was unrecordable. Skin was cold and calm. Heart sounds were audible 130/mt. There were crepitations in the lungs, subcutaneous tissues

of the right arm and in the abdominal tissues. Bowel sounds were not heard. The uterus was 10 weeks size. Os was closed. There was blood stained discharge. Adnexa were thick on both sides, Haemoglobin was 6.5 gm%, E.S.R.-110 mm/hr, marked leucocytosis was present, bleeding and clotting time more than normal. Serum bilirubin—5.8 mgm%, blood urea—136 mgm%. Albumin, bile salts and bile pigment were present. Blood and vaginal swab were sent for the culture.

Treatment consisted of moist oxygen inhalation, intravenous frusemide, amynophylin, corticosteroids along with one mega unit of benzyl penicillin intramuscularly one hourly. Molar lactate was also added. Antisera was not recommended in this condition due to the risk of anaphylaxis and serum sickness and also due to its doubtful role. Gradually swelling and crepitations spread all over the body and general condition started deteriorating. There was complete anuria. Respirations became gasping and patient went into cardio-respiratory arrest at 10.00 p.m. on 6-4-82 from which she could not be revived. As her relatives were not willing autopsy could not be done. Clostridial *welchii* were isolated in blood culture.

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