

FULL TERM SECONDARY ABDOMINAL PREGNANCY FOLLOWING RUPTURE OF RUDIMENTARY HORN OF BICORNUATE UTERUS

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Secondary abdominal pregnancy is a rare condition with many features of embryological, anatomical, physiological, as well as clinical interest. It poses problems to both the clinicians and the patient, especially when the pregnancy advances to term. It is really captivative to imagine a lady carrying a full term living baby in the peritoneal cavity away from her womb and then going away from the hospital with a smiling face, wealthy of a healthy baby. We had the occasion of having such a case a year back in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Assam Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh and the fascination had led to report of the following case.

Case Report

Smtii. P.J., a primigravida aged 24 years, married for 3 years had amenorrhoea for 5 months, reported with acute pain in the abdomen associated with vomiting and fever for 4 days. There was no history of vaginal bleeding. On examination, she had pallor and tachycardia, but no evidence of shock. A tense very tender lump was palpated in lower abdomen.

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The patient recovered with above measures within a week. She never turned up for a further check up. She reported at full term. On examination, an unusually high transverse lie with very superficially palpable foetal parts and normal foetal heart sounds were detected. The height of the fundus as well as the uterine outline could not be defined well. On vaginal examination, cervix was found to be soft and tubular, and the os closed. A soft mass of about 12 weeks gestation size was palpable behind the pubic bones in the midline. An A.P. view skiagram of her abdomen was taken, which revealed a very high transverse lie of a mature foetus. Hysterogram showed whole concentration of the dye within the uterus, without any evidence of separation along the bag of membranes, the foetus remaining higher up extrauterine pregnancy.

On laparotomy, a mature male baby was obtained in the upper abdomen surrounded by a pseudosac composed of omentum and bowels. The sac was lined posteriorly by the uterus. The sac contained a scarcity amount of meconium stained liquor. The uterus was seen low down enlarged to about 12 weeks gestation size and placenta was found implanted in the rudimentary horn of a bicornuate uterus, with an intact tube and ovary attached to it. The ruptured pregnant cornu was then excised along with its tube and ovary and abdomen dlosed.

Post operative period was uneventful. The baby was healthy, weighed 2600 G. and showed no congenital abnormality. The mother and the baby were discharged on the seventeenth post operative day in a healthy state.

See Figs. on Art Paper IV