

# ANALYSIS OF 518 CASES OF BREECH DELIVERIES DURING A 5 YEAR PERIOD

By

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## SUMMARY

Analysis of 518 cases of breech delivery was carried out during a 5 year period from January 1982 to December 1986. Twin deliveries were excluded from the study.

The incidence of breech delivery was found to be 2.8%. 45% were primiparous and 22% were booked cases. 73.4% were delivered vaginally and 26.6% were delivered by caesarean section.

The gross perinatal mortality was 25% and corrected P.N.M.R. was 5.4% in vaginal labour and 1% in L.S.C.S. The perinatal mortality can still be reduced by good A.N. screening and proper selection of cases for vaginal delivery.

TABLE I  
Type of Breech Presentation

Type of breech	No. of cases	Percentage
Extended	435	84
Complete	49	9.5
Footling	34	6.5
Total	518	100.0

TABLE II  
Nature of Delivery

Nature of delivery	No. of cases	%
Vaginal delivery	381	73.4
Lower segment C.S.	137	26.6
Total	518	100.0

TABLE III  
Labour in Breech Delivery According to Parity

Nature of delivery	Primi		Multi		Total	
	No. of cases	%	No. of cases	%	No. of cases	%
Spontaneous vaginal delivery	12	2.3	49	9.4	61	11.7
Assisted vaginal delivery	124	23.9	187	36.0	311	59.9
Breech extraction	6	1.2	3	0.6	9	1.8
Lower segment C.S.	90	17.4	47	9.2	137	26.6
Total	232	44.8	286	55.2	518	100

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Out of 518 cases, 381 had vaginal delivery (73.4%) and 137 had caesarean section (26.6%).

Out of 232 primiparae 27.4% had vaginal delivery and 17.4% had caesarean section. Out of 286 mults 46% had vaginal delivery and 9.2% had abdominal delivery. Breech extraction was carried out in 9 cases; in 3 for cord prolapse, in 4 cases for prolonged 2nd stage of labour and in 2 cases for foetal distress.

The number of C. sections performed were 137, out of which 90 (65.6%) women were primiparous and 47 (34.4%) were multiparous. The C. section rate was higher in primis than in mults.

In 34 cases (25%), elective caesarean section and in 103 cases (75%) an emergency section was done. The various indications are given in the Table.

Associated obstetric complications were found in 67 cases (12.4%). They were toxæmia in 22, accidental haemorrhage in

8, placenta previa in 6, uterine anomalies in 6, foetal anomalies in 21 and gross anaemia in 4 cases.

TABLE V  
*Shows the Birth Weight of Babies*

Weight in Kg.	No. of cases	Percentage
1.6 to 2	83	16
2.1 to 2.5	113	22
2.6 to 3	155	30
3.1 to 3.5	125	24
3.6 to 4.	42	8
Total	518	100

38% were premature and 62% were weighing between 2.6 to 4.2 kgs.

Perinatal morbidity in vaginal labour was found in 26 babies (6.8%). They were, Erbs palsy in 3, Convulsions in 8,

TABLE IV  
*Indications for Caesarean Section*

Elective C. Section	No. of cases	Emergency C. Section	No. of cases
1. Elderly primi	9	1. P R O M	16
2. Postcaesarean	12	2. Cord prolapse	15
3. B.O.H.	7	3. Foetal distress	12
4. Placenta previa	2	4. Toxaemia	18
5. Severe PET	4	5. Placenta previa	4
		6. Uterine dysfunction	21
		7. Disproportion	17
Total: 137	34 (25%)		103 (75%)

TABLE VI  
*Causes of Perinatal Mortality*

Cause	Vaginal delivery		Abdominal delivery	
	No. of cases		No. of cases	
Prematurity	75	(14.4%)	2	
Congenital malformations	15		—	
Asphyxia	10		2	
Cord prolapse	7		1	
Accidental haemorrhage	6	( 9.6%)	—	
Toxaemia	5		1	
Intrapartum sepsis	6		—	
	124	(24%)	6	(1%)



fractures in 2, intracranial haemorrhage in 3, Congenital malformations in 6 and Asphyxia in 4 cases.

In the present study, the gross perinatal mortality is found to be 25% and the corrected P.N.M.R. was 5.2% in vaginal labours and 1% in caesarean section. 14.4% of deaths were due to prematurity and rest 9.6% were due to congenital malformations and cord prolapse and asphyxia.

#### Discussion

The incidence of breech delivery reported by Sunanda Gupta, Ambiye and Vaidya and the present study was 3.1%, 2.45% and 2.8% respectively. 70% of the vaginal breech deliveries required assistance. The caesarean section rate in this study was 26.6%; whereas Sunanda Gupta, Telivala (1979) Ambiye and Vaidya reported 14%, 10.7% and 6.1% respec-

tively. In primi the caesarean section rate is higher than in multi (65.6% and 34.4%).

The prematurity rate is 51.6% in this study. Sunanda Gupta reported 60%. Singh and Marwah (1976) reported 39.6%. The gross perinatal mortality was 25% and the corrected P.N.M.R. was 5.2% (excluding prematurity, congenital malformations and cord prolapse). Sunanda Gupta, Ambiye and Vaidya, Rajani and Pathak reported 6.2%, 7.6% and 11.1% respectively.

#### References

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