

Locked Twin - A case report

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The complication of twin locking preventing delivery of the first child captures the imagination of every medical student but is exceedingly rare. Its incidence is said to be 1 in 817 twin gestation. We report a case where the fore coming head of the second twin obstructed the expulsion of the after coming head of the first twin.

of the after coming head of the foetus. She attended the Health Centre with spontaneous onset of labour at 37 weeks of pregnancy a few hours before coming to our hospital.

On examination she was exhausted, dehydrated, pulse



Fig-1 : P/A Uterus 32 weeks and 1st twin hanging from introitus



Fig-2 : Fore coming head of Second Co-twin seen in the introitus.

Mrs. J. D. 30 yrs. female P 5+0 was admitted to emergency on 5th Sept. 1986, referred from nearby Primary Health Centre with history of difficulty in delivery

120/min BP 110/70mm Hg, mild pallor. P/A uterus 32 wks (Fig. 1) having intermittent contractions; two hard globular masses were palpated, one of which was deeply

engaged in the pelvic cavity. FHS 110/Min. irregular.

On inspection of Vulva the trunk of the foetus was hanging from introitus and cord pulsation was absent (Fig 1); the baby was lifted towards the mother's abdomen and the after-coming head could not be visualised. Vaginal examination revealed full dilatation of cervix and fore-coming head of the second of the twin at about the level of ischial spine, (Fig. 2) the after-coming head of the 1st twin could be reached with too much difficulty. The case was diagnosed as locked twins.

Treatment

After stabilisation of the patient attempts were made to push up the head of the second twin to extract the first: this was in vain. Decapitation of 1st child was done under general anaesthesia and second twin was delivered with forceps. The weight of 2nd twin was 1.6 kg - which started spontaneous respiration after resuscitation. The severed head of the 1st twin was extracted from uterine Cavity. The weight of the 1st child was 1.8 kg. The patient was discharged after 5 days uneventfully.