

Triplet Pregnancy with Intrauterine Demise of Two Foetuses

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Cases of triplet pregnancy with intrauterine demise of some fetuses are rarely reported. Here we report one interesting case of triplet pregnancy in which two fetuses died in utero while their wombmate survived to be born alive though prematurely.

Mrs. A.M., 25 years, F₂ +0, EDD-30/12/97 was admitted on 30/10/97 with C/o overdistension of abdomen & swelling of feet. She had hypertension (144/100mmHg) & oedema of feet. Uterus was overdistended & of 36 weeks size. Multiple foetal parts were felt & FHS were heard.

Her urine contained albumin (1+)—other routine investigations were within normal limits. With a provisional diagnosis of multifoetal pregnancy with P.I.H. USG was done on 7/11/98 which showed triplet pregnancy with demise of two foetuses while the other foetus was alive. Gestational age of living foetus was 28 weeks with no congenital anomaly. Placenta was single & fundal.

Bleeding time (1'45") & Clotting time (3'50") of the patient were normal.

Considering the maturity of the living foetus expectant management was decided with close monitoring of fetomaternal wellbeing. USG repeated on 20/11/98 to assess wellbeing & maturity of the living foetus showed its continuing growth (now 30 weeks).

Expectant management was continued, but the patient went into labour (on 26/11/98) which progressed uneventfully to deliver 3 foetuses (Fig. I) as follows:
Foetus - I: MSB, Male, 1.10 Kg; Vertex presentation. (Tight double loop of cord round the neck)
Foetus - II: Living, Male, 1.55 kg: Vertex presentation.
Foetus - III: MSB, Male, 1.50 kg: Breech presentation

Cords of all fetuses were attached to the single placenta (550 gm). All foetuses had separate amniotic sacs with no chorionic tissue in between. Clinically neither the dead foetuses nor the living one had any congenital anomaly. The living foetus died of prematurity & RDS after 2 days. The mother had uneventful postnatal period and was discharged on 30/11/98.



Fig.1. Three foetuses (one live born, two still born of the triplet pregnancy).