

## Thirtytwo Weeks Dead Fetus Retained in the Uterus for a Period of 6 Months

R.K. Purohit

Purohit General Hospital, Shakti Nagar, Bargarh (Orissa), Pin-768 028.

Mrs. SB, 25 years, low Socio-economic status, G<sub>2</sub>P<sub>1</sub> with previous CS, presented with foul smelling vaginal discharge deteriorating health, since last 3-4 months. She had amenorrhoea of 14 months duration. She noticed no fetal movement and gradual reduction of the size of abdomen since the last 6 months after attending clinically confirmed pregnancy of 32 weeks. Patient did not attend hospital then. Her previous cycles were regular.

G.E. Body weight 26 kgs, Temp 102°F, pallor++, emaciated, reduced body muscle mass, thin skin.

P.A. Uterus 16-18 weeks size with crackling sensation felt at fundus on pressure. FHS absent, uterus was fixed and pulled up to the level of umbilicus.

P.S. Foul smelling pus coming through the cervical os.

PV. Cx. long, firm, pulled up, os tightly closed.

HB 7gm%, X-ray abdomen shows mass of fetal

skeleton in uterus. Blood transfusion and antibiotics given. Oxytocin infusion and prostaglandin injections were without effect. 24 hours before laparotomy, intrauterine lavage done with one lit. of normal saline, passing an infant feeding tube no.9 through the tight cervical canal till the returning fluid became clear to reduce spilling of pus into the peritoneal cavity during laparotomy. Laparotomy was done. Bladder was as thin as peritoneum. On holding the peritoneum the bladder wall tore and was repaired in layers. Uterus was completely covered by densely adherent intestines and omentum except at the visible upper portion of right round ligament. While trying to lift up the right round lig the thin uterine wall ruptured on its right anterior lateral wall exposing clean skeletal mass. There was not a trace of soft tissue of the fetus. All the clean fetal bones including the tiny auricular bones were removed. Uterus was closed in single layer. Indwelling catheter was inserted. Blood transfusion and antibiotics were given. Patient developed pyrexia for 24 hours. Patient was discharged without any complication after 14 days.

