

## A Rare Case of Spontaneous Rupture of the Uterus

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A 42 year old woman para 1 with her last delivery by cesarean section 12 years back had one antenatal check up in the first trimester. The ultrasound scan was normal. She came for a second check up at 18-20 weeks with 9 gms% of hemoglobin and complained of breathlessness while attending office work. She was advised to carry on light work only and to improve her hemoglobin.

A second scan was done at 26 weeks of pregnancy and showed an IUGR baby in transverse lie; the placenta was occupying the whole lower half area of the uterus with lakes and calcified areas (Photograph 1). She was advised admission but refused it. At 28 weeks, the colour Doppler study revealed an IUGR baby with oligohydramnios and calcified hypermature placenta previa with venous lakes occupying the entire lower half area of the uterus.

An elective cesarean section was planned. Her hemoglobin percentage was 11 gms before surgery. One unit of B+ve blood was arranged in view of

placenta previa. She complained of severe pain in her lower abdomen before being taken to the operation theatre.

Under anaesthesia, the abdomen was opened, on lifting the vesical peritoneum, large amount of blood gushed out of the ruptured uterine area and the patient had cardiac arrest on the table. The baby was quickly removed as breech and sent to the incubator. The mother was quickly resuscitated with large volume of IV fluids and three units of frozen plasma before blood came to the rescue. Since there was continuous ooze from the site of rupture and adherent placenta a total hysterectomy was performed immediately. As the patient's condition was poor she was kept on ventilator support but could not be revived.

On the table, the patient received three units of FFP, five units of whole blood, five units of haemacel, three units of Ringer's lactate and five units of 5% dextrose. The baby survived, but the mother expired two hours after surgery. The cause of death was cardio-respiratory arrest due to volume loss.



Photograph 1 : Ultrasonography at 26 weeks.

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