

POLYHYDRAMNION IN EARLY PREGNANCY

Case report

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Ultrasound use in obstetrics became very in evaluating pregnancy⁽¹⁾. The accurate estimation of gestational age, growing of the fetus, amniotic fluid volume and early detection of malformations gives to the hand of the clinician a major tool.

Polyhydramnion in early pregnancy raised the suspicion of a malformed fetus.

Polyhydramnion is defined in the literature as a volume of more than 2,000 cc amniotic fluid at any stage of pregnancy. Several Authors develop specific curves for measuring the diameter of the gestational sac in early pregnancy^(2,3) deducing from it the amniotic volume. A case is presented of a patient with polyhydramnion in early pregnancy.

CASE REPORT

A 27 year old primagravida with 3 years of primary infertility had become pregnant following treatment with clomiphene citrate and HCG. She was otherwise a healthy woman, no gestational diabetes was detected.

An ultrasonic examination was first performed at the 6th week of gestation and a gestational sac of 12 mm diameter was found. Ten days later because of vaginal bleeding a second ultrasonic examination was made and a gestational sac of 65 mm was found (fig. 1) instead of 12 mm supposed to be at this week of gestation. Clinical examination revealed an enlarged uterus of 10 weeks of gestation, the cervix was closed and

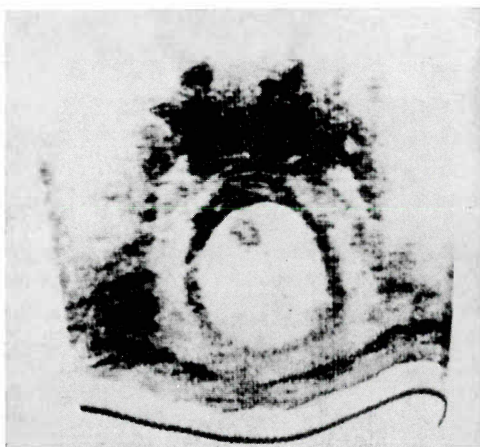


Fig. 1. — Transverse grey scale section.

SUMMARY

A case of polyhydramnion in early pregnancy diagnosed by ultrasounds is here discussed and shown for its rarity and its very interesting clinical experience

therefore threatened abortion was diagnosed without an explanation of the discrepancy between the gestational age, the uterine size and the large size of the gestational sac measured by ultrasound.

Vaginal bleeding stopped after a week and ultrasonic examination at 13 weeks revealed a fetus which was fit to gestational age (according to Crown-Rump) and the amniotic fluid was normal.

She was followed during all her pregnancy and delivered vaginally at 38 weeks a normal male fetus weighing 3,230 gram with Apgar score of 9/10.

DISCUSSION

At an early stage of pregnancy the amniotic fluid is very similar in its content to the extracellular fluid.

Ultrasound has facilitated in the antenatal diagnosis of a variety of abnormali-

ties of the central nervous system, gastrointestinal and urinary tract.

The presence of polyhydramnion in early stages of pregnancy brings the question of a malformed fetus. The pregnancy in this case terminated at 38 weeks of gestation with a normal fetus and the question is whether such a finding had any importance.

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