



OBJECTIVES

Ectopic pregnancy management has evolved beyond purely surgical intervention, with expectant and medical approaches recognised as safe and effective in selected patients. This audit evaluates management strategies and outcomes across treatment modalities in an early pregnancy unit.



METHODS

Retrospective audit of 140 consecutive ectopic pregnancy cases managed during 2025. Stable patients were stratified by serial hCG. Expectant management was offered for hCG <1000 IU/L or $\geq 15\%$ decrease; methotrexate or surgery for hCG <5000 IU/L with minimal decline or rise. Laparoscopic salpingectomy or salpingotomy was performed based on preference, live ectopic, or rupture. Eleven patients received methotrexate; three requested surgery due to a change of preference and were incorporated into the surgical group. The cohort comprised surgical (n=84), expectant (n=48), and methotrexate (n=8) management, with median hCG 2340, 282, and 1799 IU/L. The series included five interstitial ectopics managed by comototomy or wedge resection, one abdominal ectopic at the sigmoid mesentery, and one ovarian ectopic. Five caesarean scar ectopics underwent ultrasound-guided dilatation and curettage.



RESULTS

Of 48 expectantly managed patients, 11 required intervention: four elected laparoscopy due to pain, three showed sonographic growth, three presented with a leaking ectopic and one with rupture. Of 8 methotrexate patients, 2 required surgery: one due to pain, one with a growing ectopic on follow-up. Outcomes were consistent with the published literature (expectant: 66–91%; methotrexate: 65–95%).

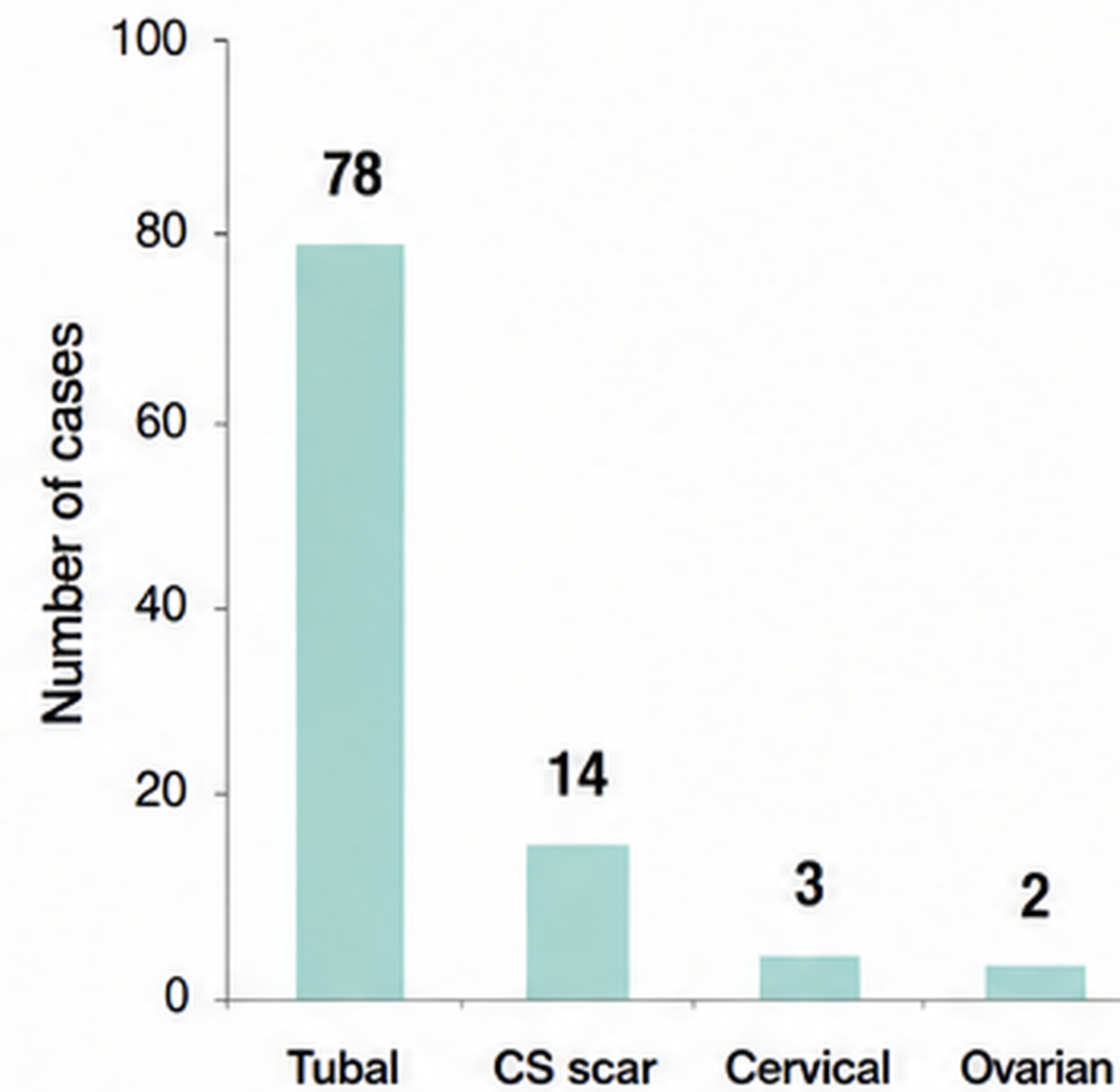


CONCLUSIONS

A structured protocol-driven approach within a dedicated early pregnancy unit achieves outcomes comparable to benchmarks across the full spectrum of ectopic presentations, including rare and complex implantation sites.

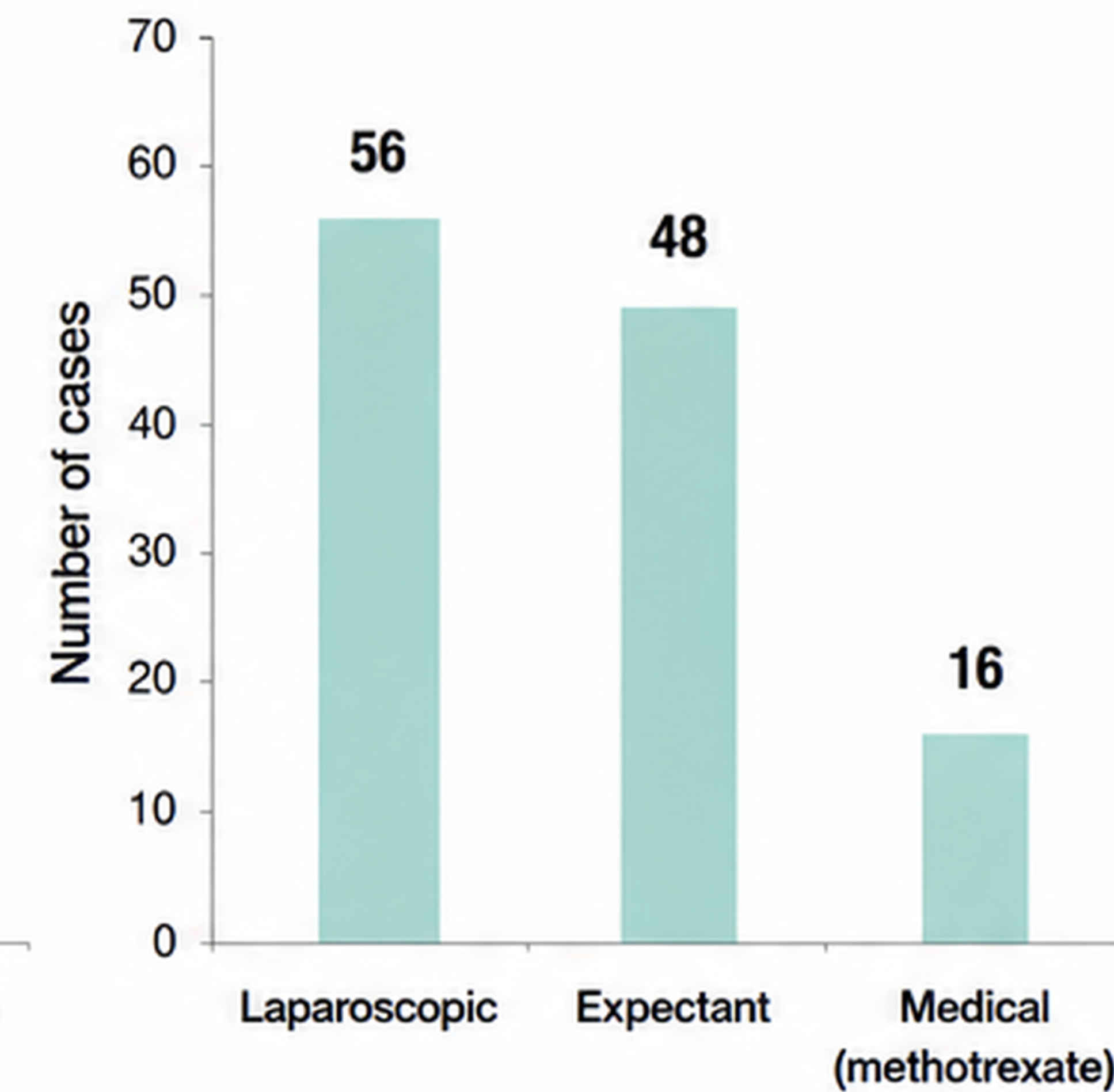
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Site of ectopic pregnancy
on diagnosis (n = 140)



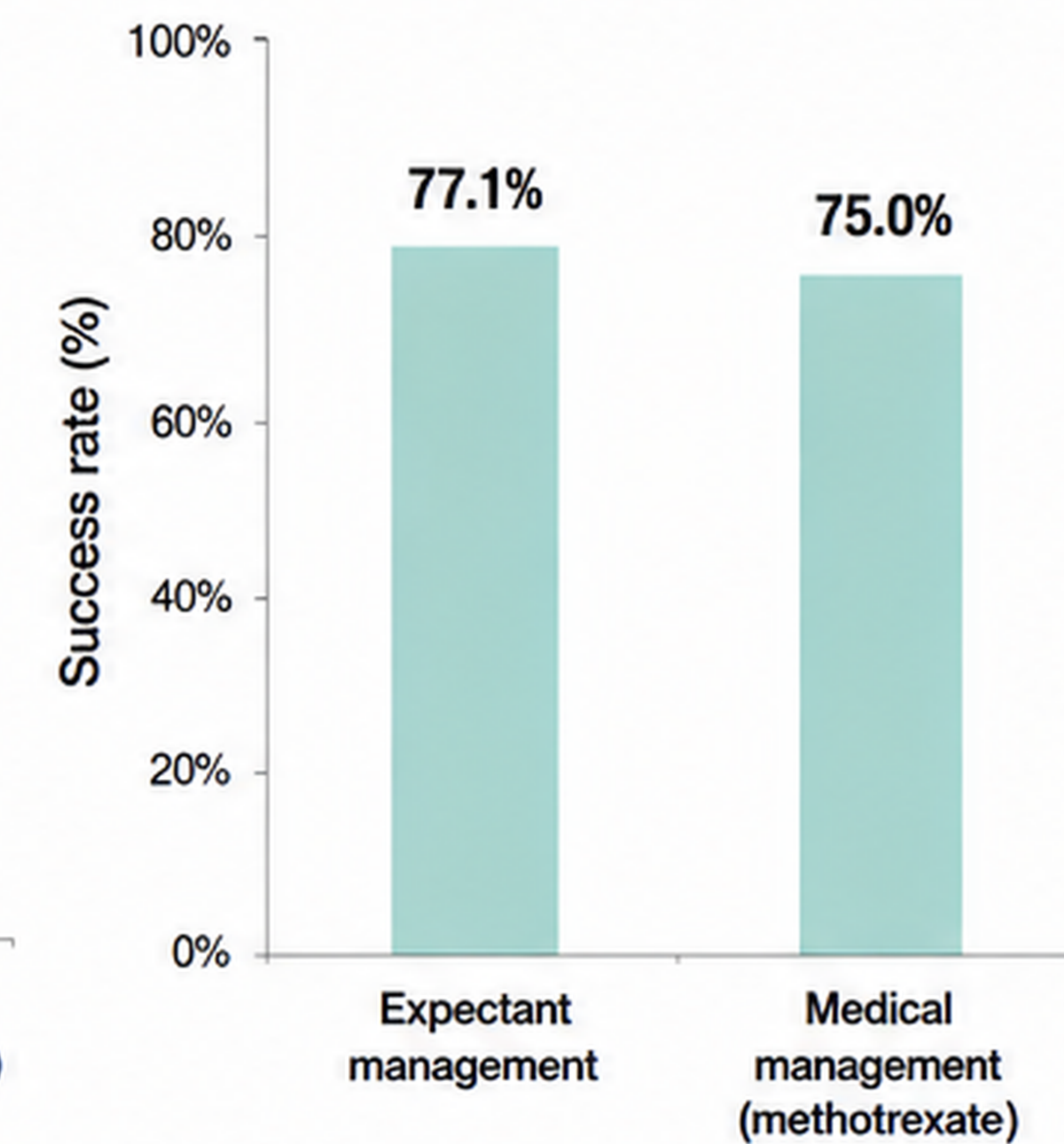
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Method of initial management
(n = 140)



3

Success rate for expectant
and medical management



COHORT SUMMARY (n = 140)



Total ectopic
pregnancies
140



Median hCG (IU/L)
Surgical: **2340**
Expectant: **282**
Methotrexate: **1799**



Expectant
management
48 cases

11 required intervention
(**77.1% success**)



Methotrexate
management
8 cases

2 required surgery
(**75.0% success**)



Rare & complex sites
managed in this series

- Interstitial ectopic: **5**
- Abdominal (sigmoid mesentery): **1**
- Ovarian ectopic: **1**
- Caesarean scar ectopic (US-guided D&C): **5**