

Case Report: An Ectopic Pregnancy in a Rudimentary Non-communicating Uterine Horn

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Background:

- The incidence rate of pregnancy in the rudimentary horn of a unicornuate uterus ranges from 1 in 76000 to 1 in 150000.
- It is a form of uterine malformation resulting from developmental anomalies of the Müllerian duct system embryologically.

Case :

- A 20 years-old nulliparous haemodynamically stable woman presented to the emergency department with acute right lower quadrant abdominal and pelvic pain.
- Pelvic ultrasound showed a live ectopic pregnancy at 6 weeks gestation.
- An emergency diagnostic laparoscopy identified an unruptured ectopic pregnancy in the right rudimentary uterine horn.
- The rudimentary horn was resected, and an ipsilateral salpingectomy was performed.
- The histopathology report confirmed the ectopic pregnancy in the rudimentary uterine horn.



An unruptured ectopic pregnancy in the right rudimentary uterine horn



Discussion:

- There are no clear clinical criteria to identify this life-threatening pregnancy, which makes diagnosis difficult.
- The sensitivity of ultrasound for detecting a rudimentary horn is only 26% and may often remain inconclusive.
- Management depends on the patient's gestational age and hemodynamic stability.
- The first line of management is the removal of the uterine horn to prevent life-threatening rupture of ectopic pregnancy, either by laparoscopy or laparotomy.
- In our case, we resected the rudimentary horn and its fallopian tube by laparoscopy. The patient had an uneventful recovery.
- Alternatively, medical management with methotrexate could be considered in hemodynamically stable patients with an early gestation.
- Once the pregnancy resolves completely, the patient can undergo surgical management to remove the rudimentary horn and ipsilateral fallopian tube to prevent future ectopic pregnancies.

Conclusion:

- Pregnancies in the rudimentary uterine horn are rare with a high maternal mortality rate due to increased risks of rupture and life-threatening haemorrhage.
- Early diagnosis and surgical management are essential to prevent adverse outcomes.

References:

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