

OBSTETRIC OUTCOME AFTER SUCCESSFUL FISTULA REPAIR

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INTRODUCTION

- Obstetric fistulas, typically caused by prolonged obstructed labor, result in severe physical and psychological consequences. While surgical repair restores anatomical function, the impact on future pregnancies is not well studied. Understanding post-repair obstetric outcomes is vital to improve reproductive care, reduce risks, and inform clinical decision-making.

OBJECTIVES

- This study evaluates reproductive outcomes after successful fistula repair, focusing on fertility restoration, pregnancy outcomes, and associated maternal and neonatal risks. It aims to inform clinical management, enhance patient counseling, and improve care for this high-risk group.

METHODS

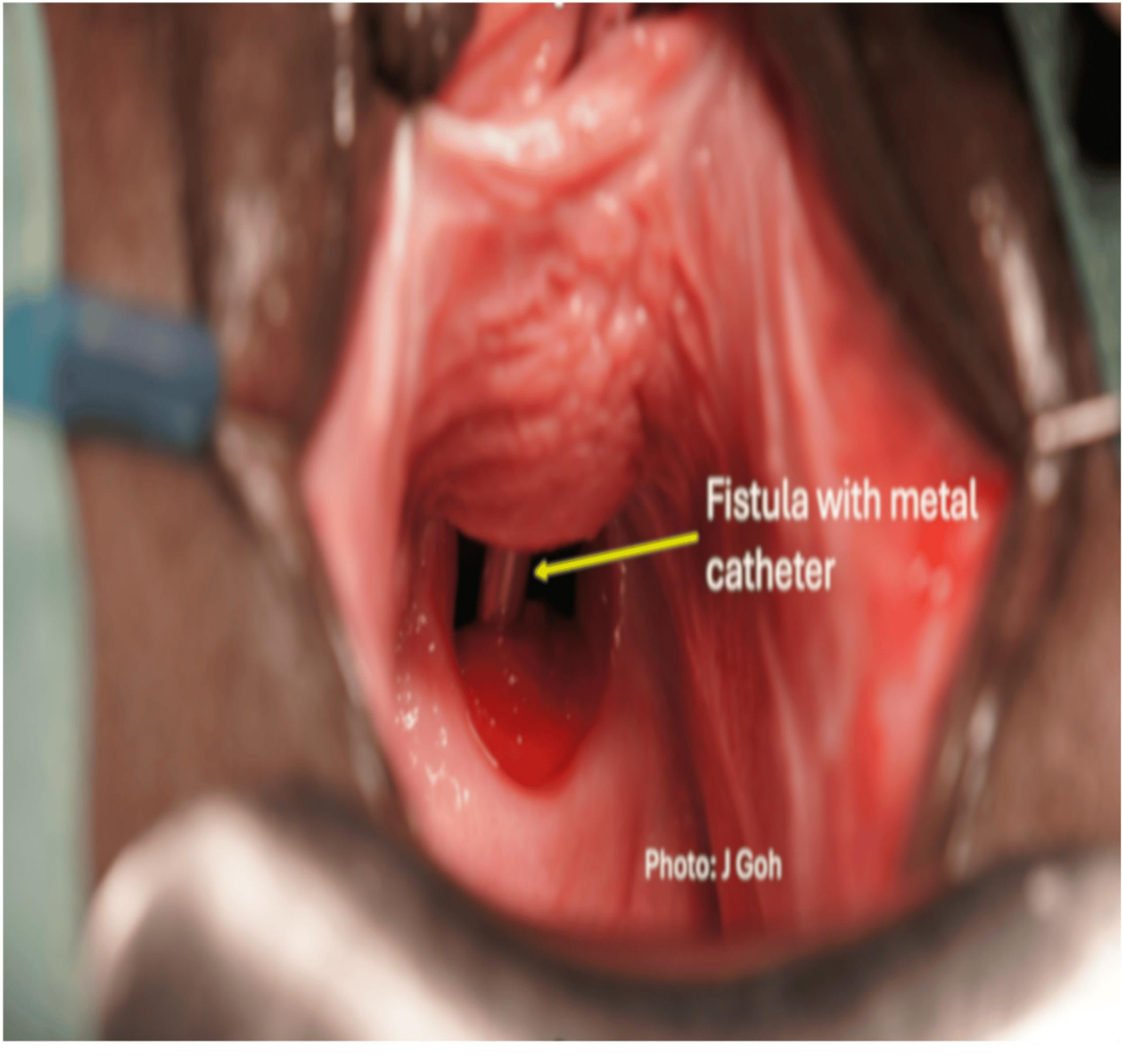
- Study Design:** Retrospective cohort study
- Study Setting:** MCH Centre, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), Islamabad, Pakistan
- Study Duration:** 2019–2023
- Inclusion Criteria:** Women with a history of successful obstetric fistula repair
- Exclusion Criteria:** Women with incomplete medical records or no subsequent pregnancy data
- Data Collection:** Medical record reviews and structured patient interviews covering pregnancy outcomes, delivery methods, and complications
- Key Variables Assessed:**
 - Fertility rates and reproductive outcomes
 - Mode of delivery and labor complications
 - Maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality
- Data Analysis:** Conducted using SPSS version 22.0 and MS Excel 360

CONCLUSIONS

- The study demonstrates that successful fistula repair can restore reproductive potential in a significant proportion of patients. However, there is an increased risk of maternal and neonatal complications, emphasizing the need for specialized antenatal care and delivery in well-equipped medical facilities.

RESULTS

- Among 189 women, **60% achieved pregnancy** after successful fistula repair.
- Of those who conceived, **75% had live births**.
- Cesarean delivery** was the predominant mode (80%) to reduce risk of fistula recurrence.
- Maternal complications** occurred in 15% of cases, including preterm labor and uterine rupture.
- Perinatal mortality rate** was 10%.
- Low birth weight** was observed in 25% of live-born infants.



Category	Details
Title	Obstetric Outcomes After Successful Fistula Repair
Study Design	Retrospective cohort study
Study Setting	MCH Centre, Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS), Islamabad, Pakistan
Study Duration	2019–2023
Sample Size	189 women with successful fistula repair
Inclusion Criteria	Women with history of successful obstetric fistula repair
Exclusion Criteria	Incomplete medical records or no post-repair pregnancy data
Data Collection	Medical record review + structured patient interviews
Key Variables Assessed	Fertility rates, delivery mode, maternal complications, neonatal outcomes
Data Analysis Tools	SPSS version 22.0 and MS Excel 360
Purpose	Evaluate reproductive outcomes post-repair, guide clinical management, and improve maternal and neonatal care

REFERENCES

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- Zelege LB, Welsh A, Abeje G, Khajehei M. Treatment outcomes of obstetrical fistula surgical repair in low-and middle-income countries: A scoping review. International Journal of Gynecology & Obstetrics. 2024 Nov;167(2):491-500.

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