

EMERGENCY CERVICAL CERCLAGE TO PROLONG PREGNANCY IN ADVANCED CERVICAL DILATATION: A CASE SERIES

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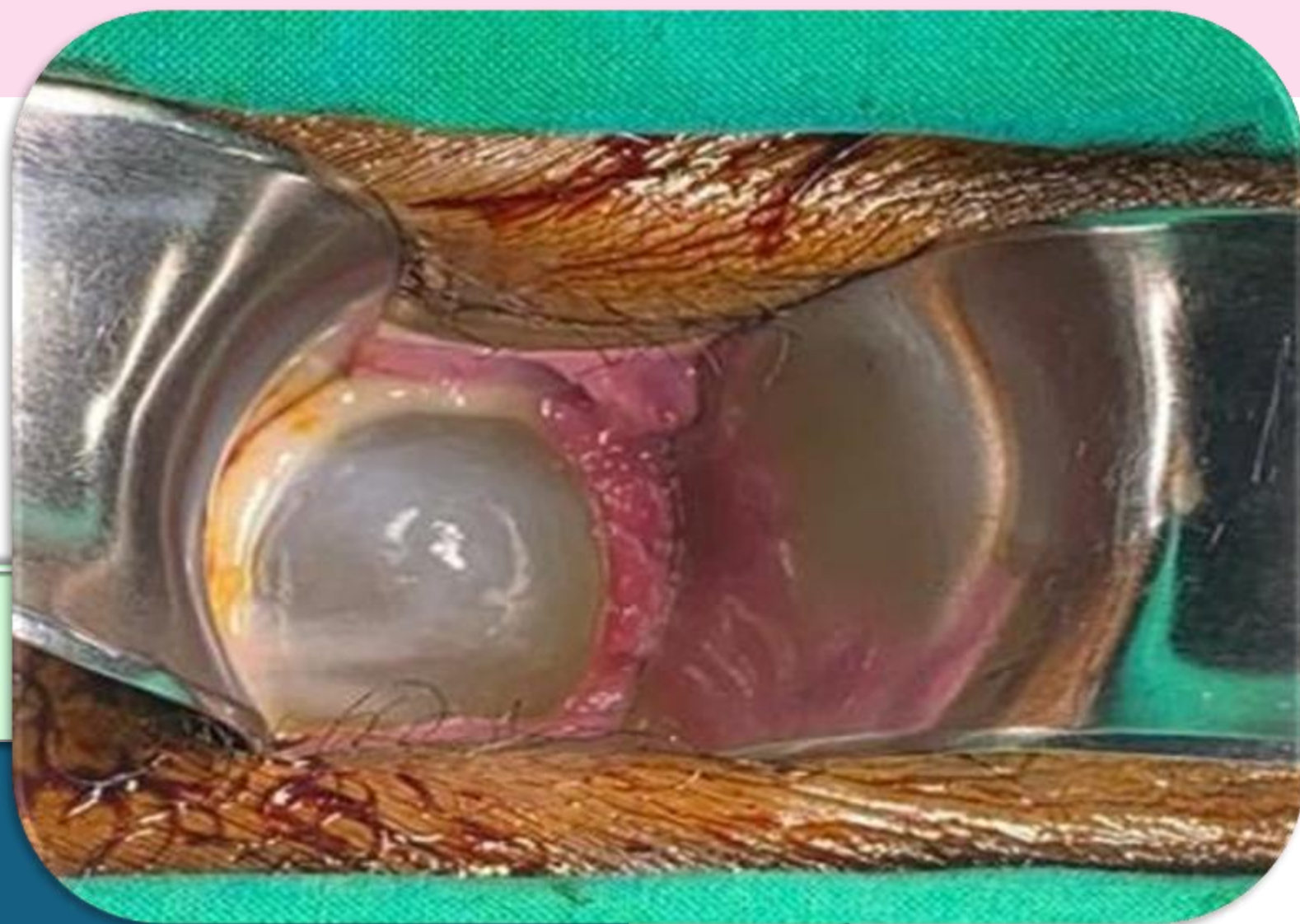
Background

Emergency cervical cerclage is a critical intervention performed in the second trimester, aimed at prolonging pregnancy up to a viable gestation in cases of advanced cervical dilatation or bulging foetal membranes. It is used to prevent premature labour and improve neonatal outcomes. Despite its risks, such as infection and membrane rupture, emergency cerclage provides favourable maternal and neonatal health in high-risk pregnancies.

Methods

Retrospective analysis

Four patients who underwent emergency cervical cerclage



Discussion

- Importance of early diagnosis, proper patient selection, and precise surgical technique in improving the success rate of emergency cerclage.
- Delayed intervention, advanced cervical dilation, and bulging membranes were identified as predictors of poorer outcomes.
- Emergency cerclage significantly increases gestational duration and neonatal survival, its effectiveness relies on the quality of material and the surgical technique.

Results

Age	Gravidity/Parity	Gestational Age	Cerclage Type	Presentation	Re-cerclage	Outcome
37	G3P0C0	15 weeks	EM – Single knot Nylon thread	Fullness in vagina	Re-cerclage with watertight knots	Delivered at 28 weeks and discharged without any complications
27	G1P0	17+2 weeks	Rescue - 2 knots Nylon thread	Threatened Miscarriage	Re-cerclage with watertight knots	Continued up to 37 weeks and 5 days by C section
40	G1P0C0	19 weeks	EM - single knot Nylon thread	Bulging membranes	None First knot watertight	Pre PROM 24 hrs later, managed as PPRM until 27 weeks and baby survived
27	G2P1C1	21+3 weeks	EM – Single knot black silk	Mild discomfort in lower abdomen	None First knot watertight	Miscarriage 5 days after cerclage

- Patient outcomes depended on the timing of the intervention, suture material and clinical condition at presentation
- Two patients required repeat cerclage
- Mean pregnancy extension was 74 days with the maximum of 143 days and minimum of 5 days.
- One patient ended up with a miscarriage

Conclusion

- Emergency cervical cerclage is an essential option for extending pregnancy in cases of advanced cervical dilation.
- Although the findings are limited by a small sample size, the critical role of early intervention and appropriate counselling in improving perinatal outcomes.



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