



Title	Three-dimensional ultrasonography of conjoined twins
Author(s)	Leung, KY; Ngai, CSW; Chan, HY; Tang, MHY
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PICTORIAL MEDICINE

THREE-DIMENSIONAL ULTRASONOGRAPHY OF CONJOINED TWINS

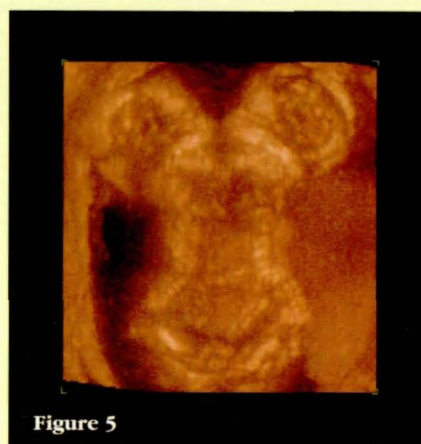
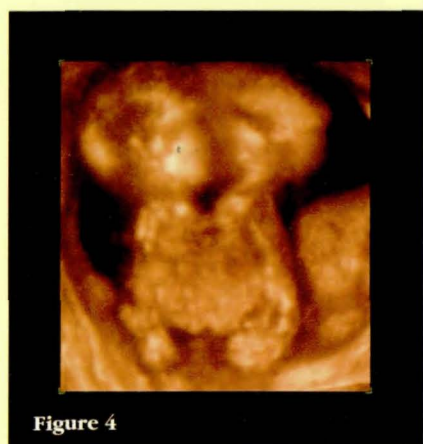
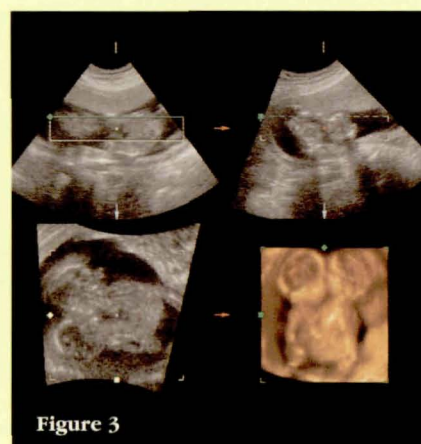
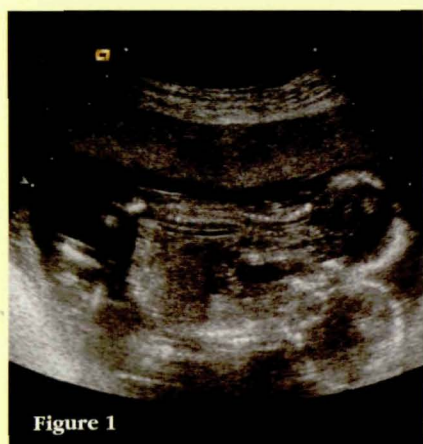
Kwok-Yin Leung, MBBS, MSc(EdCOM & ICOM), MRCOG, FHKAM (D&G), Dip(Epid & Appl Stat); Cora Ngai-Suk Wai, MBBS, MD, MRCOG, FHKAM (D&G);

Ho-Yan Chan, RN; Mary Hoi-Yin Tang, MBBS, FRCOG, FHKAM (D&G)

Ultrasound examination was performed on a 30-year-old woman at her first antenatal visit at 14 weeks' gestation showing twins fused at the thorax and abdomen (Figure 1) with a shared heart. (Figure 2) The diagnosis of thoracopagus twins was made and the shared heart is a sign of nonoperability.¹

Despite explanation with the use of ultrasonographic images, we felt that the parents did not understand the condition clearly. We therefore performed a three-dimensional ultrasound examination. The multiplanar, (Figure 3) surface-rendered (Figure 4) and x-ray mode (Figure 5) ultrasound images

allowed a better depiction of this complex anomaly. Consistent with another report,² these images were helpful in demonstrating the complex anomaly to the parents. They opted for a termination of pregnancy, and the diagnosis of thoracopagus was confirmed on examination of the abortus. (Figure 6)



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About the Authors

Dr Leung is Consultant and Dr Wai is Associate Professor at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, The University of Hong Kong, Queen Mary Hospital; Ms Chan is Nurse Specialist and Dr Tang is Consultant at the Prenatal Diagnostic and Counselling Department, Tsan Yuk Hospital, Hong Kong SAR, China.