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Research Article

Birth weight and term of the gestation in pregnancies complicated by isolated oligo and isolated polyhydramnios

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ABSTRACT

Background: To access the birth weight of the newborn and term of the gestation in pregnancies complicated by isolated oligo and polyhydramnios.

Methods: A Hospital based study has been conducted in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Sri Ramachandra Medical College and Research Institute, Chennai. All the singleton pregnancies diagnosed with Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios were enrolled in the study. All the subjects were followed up to their delivery. Birth weight and Term of the Gestation were recorded immediately after delivery.

Results: Out of 3,567 patients 32 (0.9%) and 5 (0.15%) were diagnosed as Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios respectively.

Among 32 (0.9%) newborns of Isolated Oligohydramnios, 5 (15.62%) were Very Low Birth Weight ($\leq 1,500$ gms), 14 (43.75%) were Low Birth Weight (1,500 – 2,500gms) and 13 (41%) were with normal birth weight (2,500 – 3,800gms). None of the cases were with Large for Gestational Age babies (> 3800gms). On the other hand Preterm and Term gestations were 17 (53.12%) and 15(46.8%) respectively in this group.

Among the 5 (0.15%) cases of Isolated Polyhydramnios group, Very Low Birth Weight and Low Birth Weight newborns were 1(20%) each and newborns with normal Birth weight were 3 (60%). Similarly, Preterm and Term gestations were 2(40%) and 3(60%) respectively.

Conclusion: Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios are associated with increased rate of Low Birth Weight (Very Low Birth Weight) neonates and Preterm deliveries.

Keywords: Isolated oligohydramnios, Isolated polyhydramnios, Low birth weight, Pre term babies

INTRODUCTION

The term isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios refers to the condition when Oligo and Polyhydramnios are not associated with high risk conditions of the pregnant women and fetus such as Pregnancy Induced Hypertension (PIH), Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM), Premature Rupture Of Membranes (PROM), Intra Uterine Growth Retardation (IUGR), Fetal anomalies.¹

In general, Oligo and Polyhydramnios are the conditions where Amniotic Fluid Index (AFI) will be $\pm 5^{2,3}$ and ± 24 cm^{2,3} respectively. Multiple number of articles stating the association of Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios with Low Birth Weight (LBW), Macrosomia, Preterm, Increased Lower Segment Cesarean Section (LSCS), low APGAR score, NICU admission, fetal Anomalies and so on when few articles are disproving the same.

The current study has been undertaken to access the Birth Weight of the newborn and Term of the Gestation at the

time of delivery in pregnancies complicated by Isolated Oigo and Polyhydramnios as "The Birth Weight of an infant is the single most important determinant of its chances of survival, healthy growth and development"^{4,5}. At the same time, term of the gestation is highly essential for the growth, maturity and immunological development of fetus.

METHODS

Study has been conducted in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Sri Ramachandra Medical College and research Institute, Chennai over a period of 15 months (April 2012 to June 2013).

Institutional Ethical Committee approval has been acquired for the study.

All the singleton pregnant women who scheduled for delivery with Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios (without GDM, PIH, PROM and Congenital Anomalies of fetus) were enrolled in the study after the informed consent. All subjects were followed up to their delivery. Birth Weight of the Newborn and Term of the Gestation at the time of the delivery were recorded.

Newborn's Birth weight < 2500gms is Low Birth Weight (LBW), Birth weight between 2,500 to 3,800gms has

been considered as normal birth weight where as Birth weight > 3,800gms has been considered as Large for Gestational age baby (LGA). Similarly Gestational age (GA) < end of 37 weeks is Preterm and GA completed 37weeks - 42 weeks is Term and GA >completed 42 weeks is Post term.⁴

Data has been analyzed using SPSS 16 software.

RESULTS

Out of 3,567 patients during the study period, 32 (0.9%) and 5 (0.15%) were diagnosed as Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios respectively.

Among 32 (0.9%) newborns of Isolated Oligohydramnios 5 (15.62%) were less than 1,500gms, considered as Very Low Birth Weight (VLBW), 14 (43.75%) had birth weight between 1,500 – 2,500gms which was considered as Low Birth Weight (LBW) and 13 (40.6%) were with normal birth weight i.e. between 2,500 to 3,800gms. None of the cases were with Large for Gestational Age babies (LGA). On the other hand Preterm and Term gestations were 17 (53.12%) and 15(46.8%) respectively in this group (Table 1).

Variable	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age	20	37	26.06	4.662
AFI	1.0	5.0	3.994	1.0910
Birth Weight of all Isolated Oligohydramnios Babies (gms)	1120	3780	2369.03	628.128
Birth Weight of LBW Babies (gms)	1600	2469	2212.07	234.180
Birth Weight of VLBW Babies (gms)	1120	1470	1320.00	151.162
Birth Weight of Normal Birth weight Babies (gms)	2580	3780	2941.54	331.458
APGAR Score - 1 Min (Out of 10)	5	8	7.59	.911
APGAR Score - 5 Min (Out of 10)	6	9	8.72	.729
Hemoglobin (gms/dl)	8.0	16.0	11.178	1.6595
Gestational Age (Weeks + Days)	28+1	40+6	36+4	3

Table 1: Descriptive statistics of various variable of isolated oligohydramnios group.

Among the 5 (0.15%) cases of Isolated Polyhydramnios group, VLBW and LBW newborns were 1(20%) each and newborns with normal Birth weight were 3 (60%). Whereas Preterm and Term gestations were 2(40%) and 3(60%) respectively.

DISCUSSION

In the present study we focused on the Birth Weight of the Newborn and the Term of Gestational Age at the time of the delivery in pregnancies complicated with Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios. In our study we found higher rate of Low Birth Weight (Includes both LBW and VLBW) neonates and Preterm deliveries than normal in both Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios groups.

Among the 0.9% of isolated oligohydramnios Low Birth Weight (Includes both LBW and VLBW) Vs Normal birth weight Neonates were 59.4% Vs 40.6%. Similarly Preterm Vs Term Gestations were 53.1% Vs 46.1%. In case of the Isolated Polyhydramnios group Low Birth Weight (Includes both LBW and VLBW) Vs Normal birth weight Neonates were 40% Vs 60% and Preterm Vs Term Gestations also occurred in 40 % Vs 60%.

Prevalence of Isolated Oligohydramnios has been quoted between $0.5\%^6 - 16.86\%^{1.7}$ in the existing studies. In the present study 0.9% (32) of cases was Isolated Oligohydramnios among 3,567 deliveries.

Our findings of Oligohydramnios group are similar to the results of Nir Melamed et al⁶ who conducted a retrospective cohort study in 108 preterm Isolated Oligohydromnios patients. Likewise Hima Ahmed et al.⁹ Locatelli A et al⁹ and Pershit Chate et al¹⁰ evaluated the perinatal outcome in patients with Isolated Oligohydramnios and observed increased rate of Low Birth Weight and Preterm deliveries.

In contrast to the above findings, Conway DL et al¹¹ found no significant difference of Birth Weight and Term of Gestational age between the Isolated Oligohydramnios and Control group with 183 subjects in each group.

Panting – Kemp A et al¹² carried out a study with 151 singleton pregnancies of Isolated Polyhydramnios and found no significant LBW in association. Similarly Smith CV et al¹³ also didn't find the increased incidence of LBW and Preterm in the Polyhydramnios group.

Whereas in contrast to the Panting – Kemp A et al¹² & Smith CV et al¹³ findings, and in line with the present study findings Kung – Chao Chen et al¹⁴ and Dorleijn DM et al¹⁵ noticed the higher rate of Preterm deliveries and Low Birth Weight Newborns in the study group of Isolated Polyhydramnios.

Smith CV et al¹³ found 8.2% of pregnancies complicated by Isolated Polyhydramnios in 1177 patients. He concluded Isolated Polyhydramnios is not an indication of impaired perinatal outcome.

Maliha Sadaf et al¹⁶ evaluated perinatal outcome in Explained (Polyhydramnios) and Unexplained (Isolated Polyhydramnios) Polyhydramnios and observed the increased rate of LBW and Preterm deliveries in Unexplained Polyhydramnios group, which will go with the present study findings.

In the present study, findings of Isolated Polyhydramnios group holds less importance as very less cases were recorded and none of the recorded cases underwent Lower Segment Cesarean Section (LSCS) in this group. Lower Segment Cesarean Sections (LSCS – both Emergency and Elective) were more prevalent (n = 24; 75%) in Isolated Oligohydramnios groups which are iatrogenic as in most of the previous studies. Among these 24 subjects delivered by LSCS, 12 (50%) were Preterm and with LBW. Since Isolated Oligohydramnios is the condition not complicated by maternal/fetal high risk condition, we suggest the follow-up of pregnancy with maternal hydration therapy/appropriate conservation^{17,18} in order to increase the Amniotic Fluid Volume and to reduce LSCS (iatrogenic) before 37 weeks (Preterm) of gestational age.

CONCLUSION

Isolated Oligo and Polyhydramnios are associated with high rate of Low Birth Weight (LBW and VLBW) neonates and Preterm deliveries. Isolated Oligohydramnios holding the higher prevalence of Low Birth Weight and Preterm deliveries than Isolated Polyhydramnios group.

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