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Higher rates of false-positive HIV antigen/antibody screens during the COVID-19 pandemic: implications for pregnant patients

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Outcome	No	IM 17-OHPC	P-value	Vaginal	P-value
	treatment			Ũ	
PTB < 37 weeks	22.3%	29.1%	0.076	14.3%	0.33
PTB 34 0/7 - 36	15.7%	17.2%	0.69	7.1%	0.22
6/7					
PTB 28 0/7 - 33	4.2%	7.4%	0.13	7.1%	0.64
6/7					
PTB 20 0/7 - 27	2.4%	4.4%	0.29	0.0%	0.65
6/7					

Table 2: Proportion of preterm birth within each treatment group stratified by gestational age at delivery

PTB = preterm birth

1075 Higher rates of false-positive HIV antigen/ antibody screens during the COVID-19 pandemic: implications for pregnant patients



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OBJECTIVE: To compare the rates of false-positive HIV 4th generation screens among pregnant patients before and during the COVID-19 pandemic.

STUDY DESIGN: A retrospective study evaluating the rates of falsepositive HIV 4th generation screens among 44,187 pregnant patients was conducted. Pregnant patients from 3/2017-3/2019 were assigned to the "pre-COVID" cohort, and pregnant patients from 3/2020-3/ 2022 were assigned to the "COVID" cohort. Data including the date(s) and results of HIV 4th generation Ag/Ab combination tests and SARS-CoV-2 RT-PCR assays were ascertained via chart review. An HIV 4th generation test result was deemed "false-positive" if subsequent HIV-1/HIV-2 antibody differentiation immunoassays and/or HIV-1 nucleic acid tests were non-reactive.

RESULTS: 42/22,073 (0.19%) patients with pre-COVID pregnancies who had HIV 4th generation tests were found to have abnormal results. In comparison, 71/22,114 (0.32%) patients with pregnancies during the pandemic had abnormal test results. 16/42 (38.1%) patients with abnormal results pre-COVID had false-positive HIV screens. In comparison, 48/71 (67.6%) COVID cohort patients with abnormal results had false-positive HIV screens. Overall, the rate of false-positive HIV 4th generation tests was significantly higher in the COVID cohort compared to the pre-COVID cohort (p=0.002). Among the 48 patients with false-positive HIV screens in the COVID cohort, 13 (27.1%) had a PCR-proven COVID-19 diagnosis during pregnancy preceding their false positive result. Interestingly, 9/13 patients (69.2%) also had at least one negative HIV 4th generation screening result predating their COVID-19 diagnosis.

CONCLUSION: Considering the maternal and neonatal implications of a positive HIV test result, OB/GYNs should be cognizant that false-positive results can occur in the setting of new/prior COVID-19 infections. Shared decision making should be used when considering the initiation of combination antiretroviral therapy, route of delivery and/or delay of breastfeeding for patients with a newly positive HIV 4th generation tests, particularly in the absence of other risk factors.

1076 Outcomes after prenatal (Fetoscopic and open) and postnatal repair for spina bifida by 30 months



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OBJECTIVE: To compare outcomes of fetuses who underwent a laparotomy-assisted fetoscopic repair against those who underwent open fetal surgery or postnatal repair.

STUDY DESIGN: Retrospective cohort study of 191 patients who underwent spina bifida repair between 2011-2021 at a single center. Patients were eligible for prenatal repair using MOMS criteria (BMI up to 40kg/m^2). Method for in utero repair was based on patient's decision. Fetoscopic repair was performed by using CO₂ uterine insufflation and two trocar insertion into the uterine cavity. Postnatally-repaired cases were eligible for prenatal surgery from a fetal standpoint.

RESULTS: A total of 112 fetoscopic, 39 open fetal surgery and 40 postnatal repaired cases were included. Fetoscopic (15.2%) and open (12.8%) repaired cases had a lower rate of clubfeet than in postnatal repair (32.5%; p=0.01 and p=0.03). (Table 1)

In the fetoscopic group, surgeries occurred later [25.1(22.9-26.4) vs 24.9(21.3-25.6) weeks; p < 0.01], they were longer (253.95 \pm 48.66 vs 154.49 \pm 24.45 minutes; p < 0.01) and hospital stays were shorter [5(3-49) vs 6(4-18) days; p < 0.01] than in the open group.

Gestational age at delivery was more advanced in the fetoscopic [37.9 (25.1-40.9)weeks] and postnatal repair [38.5(33.7-39.9) weeks] groups than in open cases [35.7 (26.4-37.9)weeks; p < 0.01 and p < 0.01].

Cesarean delivery was more frequent in open than in fetoscopic cases (100% vs 48.6%; p < 0.01) and in the former, it was more frequent to find areas of thinning or dehiscence at the time of C-section (38.7% vs 0%; p < 0.01).

Fetoscopic (38.9%) and open (30.3%) repaired cases had a significantly lower rate of hydrocephalus treatment than after postnatal repair (72.5%; p < 0.01 and p < 0.01) by 12 months.

At 30 months, no differences in ambulation were observed between fetoscopic and open cases. Both groups had significantly better ambulatory skills than postnatally repaired cases (Table 2)

CONCLUSION: Laparotomy-assisted fetoscopic repair approach provides significant benefits to the mother and the baby and provides equivalent neurosurgical outcomes than the open fetal surgery approach.