



FETOMATERNAL OUTCOME IN IUGR PREGNANCIES: A PROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONAL STUDY

Gynecology

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR) is an important and common cause of perinatal morbidity and mortality.

AIM: The main objective of this study was to find out the frequency of IUGR, to identify the maternal & placental risk factors associated with IUGR and perinatal outcome.

METHODS: A prospective study was conducted for 1 year at a tertiary care hospital, AIMS, B .G. Nagara.

RESULTS: The incidence of IUGR in our study is 2.5 %. Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy followed by oligohydramnios were most commonly associated with IUGR. Mean growth lag was >4weeks clinically , 34% had abnormal Doppler findings on admission, mean gestational age at delivery was 37weeks, mean birth weight of the babies was 2.01kg. Cesarean delivery accounted to 74%. 70% of IUGR neonates required admission to NICU.

CONCLUSION: Identification of risk factors and management of the same antenatally is an important issue to prevent adverse perinatal outcomes associated with IUGR.

KEYWORDS

Intrauterine growth restriction, maternal & placental factors, perinatal outcomes.

INTRODUCTION:

Intrauterine growth restriction (IUGR) is an important and common cause of perinatal morbidity and mortality. [1]The IUGR fetuses are at a greater risk of developing perinatal and neonatal complications[2] Henceforth, an early detection, choosing the optimal time, mode of delivery and intervention when required could minimize the risk significantly.

OBJECTIVE:

The main objective of this study was to identify the maternal & placental risk factors associated with IUGR and its perinatal outcome.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

It was a Prospective Observational Study .It was conducted from October 2018 to October 2019 at a tertiary care hospital, Adichunchangiri Institute of Medical Sciences, B .G. Nagara, Karnataka. Included 50 singleton pregnancies above 28weeks of gestation with clinical diagnosis of IUGR and confirmed by ultrasonography.

RESULTS:

The incidence of IUGR is 2.5%

Table 1: Maternal Factors:

SL. NO	MATERNAL FACTORS	NO	%
1.	PARITY		
	PRIMI	35	70%
	MULTI	15	30%
2.	BMI		
	<18.5	6	12%
	18.6-24.9	36	72%
	>25	8	16%
3.	BOOKED CASES WITH FOLLOW UP	25	50%
	UNBOOKED CASES	21	42%
	REFERRED CASES	4	8%
4.	GESTATIONAL AGE		
	<34 WEEKS	3	6%
	34-37 WEEKS	9	18%
	>37 WEEKS	38	76%

Many of them were primi (70%) and belonged to normal BMI range(72%) and 50% were booked cases with regular follow up.

Table 2: Distribution Of Iugr According To Maternal Risk:

SL. NO	MATERNAL RISK FACTORS	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	HYPERTENSIVE DISORDERS IN PREGNANCY		34%
	• Gestational hypertension	5	
	• Mild Pre-Eclampsia	5	
	• Severe Pre-Eclampsia	7	
2.	OLIGOHYDRAMNIOS	13	26%
3.	Impaired GTT on MNT	2	8%
	Gestational Diabetes Mellitus	1	
	Overt DM	1	
4.	ANAEMIA	3	6%
5.	HYPOTHYROIDISM	4	8%
6.	OTHERS	5	10%
7.	NONE	8	16%

Hypertensive disorders(34%) followed by Oligohydramnios(26%) were most common antenatal risk factors. Others include Rh negative status, bronchial asthma, ovarian cyst, retro-positive status.

Table 3: Growth Lag By Clinical Assessment By Per Abdomen Examination

SL. NO	GROWTH LAG	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	<4 WEEKS	11	22%
2.	4-6 WEEKS	39	78%

78% had growth lag of 4-6 weeks when assessed clinically

Table 4: Distribution Of Iugr Cases Based On Fetal Biometry (obstetric Sonography) Descriptive Statistics:

Sl. No	Particulars	NO	MIN	MAX	MEAN	SD
1.	BPD	50	6.48	8.30	7.39	0.91
2.	AC	50	20.57	34.20	29.25	3.06
3.	FL	50	4.56	7.61	6.63	0.64
4.	FL/AC	50	18.80	31.13	22.57	1.97
5.	HC/AC	50	0.94	1.15	1.05	0.05

Table 5: Distribution Of Iugr Cases Based On FL/AC & HC/AC Ratio:

SL. NO	RATIOS	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	FL/AC ratio		
	>23.5(IUGR)	10	20%
	<23.5	50	80%

2.	HC/AC ratio >34 weeks >1(IUGR) <1	45 2	95.7% 4.25%
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34 weeks, HC/AC ratio is <1

If more than 1, suggestive of IUGR. 95.7% cases had HC/AC ratio >1

Table 6: Distribution Of IUGR Cases Based On Fetal Doppler

SL. NO	FETAL DOPPLER	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	NORMAL	29	58%
2.	ABNORMAL	21	42%

42% of IUGR cases had abnormal doppler findings.

Table 7: Distribution Of IUGR Cases According To Maternal Outcome:

SL NO	MODE OF DELIVERY	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	VAGINAL	13	26%
2.	CESAREAN	37	74%

74% underwent cesarean delivery

Table 8: Indication For Cesarean Delivery:

SL. NO	INDICATIONS	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	FETAL DISTRESS	17	34%
2.	PREVIOUS LSCS IN LABOUR	6	12%
3.	SEVERE PE	5	10%
4.	REVERSAL OF CPR RATIO	4	8%
5.	PRIMI WITH BREECH	2	4%
6.	FAILURE TO PROGRESS	2	4%
7.	ABRUPTION	1	2%

Fetal distress accounted to 34% and was accounted to be the most common indication for cesarean delivery.

Table 9: Significant Intra-operative And Post-operative Findings Cesarean Delivery:

SL NO	INTRA-OP AND POST-OP FINDINGS	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	Meconium Stained Amniotic Fluid	15	30%
2.	SCANTY LIQUOR	10	20%
4.	BLOOD STAINED LIQUOR	1	2%
5.	APGAR : AT 1 MIN < 5 AT 5 MIN < 7	10 5	20% 10%
6.	NICU ADMISSION	35	70%

30% of cases had meconium stained amniotic fluid. 20% of babies had APGAR at birth <5 and at 5 min <7 was 10% (APGAR improved after Bag and Mask ventilation.)

Table 10: Distribution According Birth Weight:

SL. NO	BIRTH WEIGHT	NO	PERCENTAGE
1.	<1500 GRAMS	10	20%
2.	1500-2499 GRAMS	34	68%
3.	>2500 GRAMS	6	12%

68% belonged to LOW BIRTH WEIGHT group and 20% belonged to EXTREMELY LBW group.

Table 11: Fetal Outcome:

SL. NO	OUTCOME	NO	%
1.	Normal without any immediate morbidity	15	30%
2.	NICU Admission	30	60%
3.	NICU admission + ventilator	4	8%
4.	Intrauterine fetal death	0	0
5.	Perinatal mortality	1	2%

70% of babies were admitted to NICU, out of which 8% (n=4) required ventilator. 2% (n=1) expired after 6 days of birth.

Table 12: Perinatal Outcome:

SL. NO	OUTCOME	NO	%
1.	HYPERBILIRUBINAEMIA	30	60%

2.	PERINATAL ASPHYXIA	8	16%
3.	HYPOGLYCEMIA	7	14%
4.	POLYCYTHEMIA	3	6%
5.	FEED INTOLERANCE	10	20%
6.	NECROTIZING ENTEROCOLITIS	1	2%
7.	SEPSIS	3	6%

60% (n=30) of babies had Hyperbilirubinaemia and required phototherapy (Max TB : 18mg/dl). 16% (n=8) had perinatal asphyxia.

Table 13: Distribution According To Hospital Stay

SL. NO	DAYS OF HOSPITAL STAY	NO	%
1.	<5	3	6%
2.	5-10	30	60%
3.	>10	17	34%

Mean hospital stay of all patients was around 10 days, 60% patients stayed in hospital stay for 5-10 days. Maximum no of days at hospital was 34 days.

DISCUSSION:

IUGR is an important cause of perinatal mortality and morbidity in developing countries. In our study, the Incidence of pregnancy induced hypertension (mild, moderate, severe) with IUGR was 34% (17/50) which is comparable to a study conducted by Muniyar N et al [1] who found 33.66% patients with IUGR. Similar percentage and number that is 13/50 cases (26%) was shared by oligo-hydramnios as an antenatal risk factor for IUGR.

Color Doppler was done for all patients and was normal in 58% (29/50) with 42% (21/50) patient having it abnormal which is comparable with study conducted by Gaikwad PR et al. [2]

Out of all mothers affected by IUGR 70% (35/50) were primigravida while 30% (15/50) were multigravida which is in line with findings of Arora et al. [6] Good fetal surveillance in antenatal period by fetal movement count, non-stress test, biophysical profile allow most cases of IUGR to do well.

Mode of delivery, observed in our study was, that the majority of patients i.e. 74% (37/50) required caesarean section while only 26% (13/50) delivered by vaginal route, this finding is consistent with other observational studies like Arora et al [6] and Muniyar Net al. [1] The planned preterm deliveries in IUGR pregnancies are conducted to avoid intra-uterine fetal demise in cases of fetoplacental insufficiency.

Analysis of fetal outcome in our study showed that 70% (35/50) of neonates required NICU admission while 8% (4/60) of it required ventilatory assistance. This is comparable with study conducted by Shrestha A.



This was a 37 week neonate born to a mother with severe PE with birth weight 1.5 kg.

Asymmetrical IUGR:

- Large head compared to rest of the body
- Visible rib cage

- Excessive skin folds
- Loss of body fat

SUMMARY:

The incidence of IUGR in our study is 2.5 %.

Hypertensive disorders of pregnancy followed by Oligohydramnios were most commonly associated with IUGR. Mean growth lag was >4weeks clinically .42% had abnormal Doppler findings .Mean gestational age at delivery was 37weeks.Cesarean delivery accounted to 74%.Mean birth weight of the babies was 2.01kg. 70% of IUGR neonates required admission to NICU. Mean hospital stay was around 10 days.

CONCLUSION:

- Most of the consequences of IUGR are preventable.
- Awareness amongst pregnant women about antenatal checkups (SERIAL GROWTH MONITORING) is utmost importance.
- Identification of risk factors and ANTENATAL management of the same is an important issue to prevent adverse perinatal outcomes associated with IUGR.

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