TROPHOBLASTIC TISSUE AT CESAREAN SECTION SCAR

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A pregnancy implanted on a previous cesarean section scar in the less frequent variety of ectopic pregnancy. The diagnostic criteria for this possibility are: trophoblastic tissue located between the bladder and the anterior uterine wall, the absence of a foetus in the uterine cavity and the visualization with ultrasound of a myometrial discontinuity in this area.

The six cases attended at our Hospital in the last years with histological confirmation of presence of trophoblastic tissue at hysterorrhaphy have been reviewed. Two patients had undergone two previous cesarean sections while the other four just one. All cases presented clinically with severe metrorrhagia, two after term delivery and four during first trimester pregnancy, one of these after intended conservative management with Methotrexate. The situation required hysterectomy in four cases, while the bleeding was controlled with curettage and conservative management in one and wedge resection of the previous cesarean section scar in another. Histology confirmed the presence of chorionic vellosities at anteroinferior uterine segment in five cases while the last one was diagnosed as placenta accreta.

The implantation of trophoblastic tissue in a previous cesarean section scar is an entity with difficult diagnosis and treatment that has a high risk of bleeding and uterine rupture. The majority of cases when this entity has not been previously suspected will present with severe haemorrhage requiring hysterectomy due to haemodynamic compromise. We shall consider this entity in patients with previous cesarean section presenting metrorrhagia during pregnancy, especially if placental insertion is very low in the anterior wall or previous. Together with the clinical manifestations, ultrasound and BhCG will help with the diagnosis that can be confirmed with magnetic resonance and finally with histology.