

Axial Torsion and Infarction of Meckel's Diverticulum in the 3rd Trimester of Pregnancy

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Abstract

Meckel's diverticulum is a congenital anomaly which can become complicated or remain asymptomatic throughout life. During pregnancy, however, diverticulum infection could become a serious complication. Diverticulum necrosis and perforation are complications that increase morbidity in pregnancy, both maternal and fetal. The rarity of the condition and the maternal physiological changes in pregnancy make the diagnosis difficult. We present the case of a Meckel's diverticulum gangrene in third trimester pregnancy, atypical case due to advanced pregnancy where the risk-benefit balance was carefully evaluated on one hand because of the risk of infection associated with expectant management and on the other hand the risk and complications of iatrogenic preterm premature birth. The outcome was favorable for both mother and newborn.

Key words: Meckel diverticulum, pregnancy, axial torsion, gangrene