

Study of Advances in Management of 68 Cases of Ectopic Gestation

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Abstract: **Introduction:** In recent years due to various reasons and better diagnostic facilities, increased incidence is noted in ectopic gestation. Main objective behind this study is to know the incidence of ectopic pregnancy in various age groups, to study its predisposing factors, its clinical presentation and to study the changing trends of modern obstetric management from radical surgeries to medical and laparoscopic management. **Methods:** A study of 68 cases of tubal ectopic pregnancy was carried out from August 2013 to July 2014 at a tertiary health care center. Patients managed with following modalities were selected for study. (1) Medical management (MXT) (2) Laparoscopic management: salpingostomy, salpingectomy (3) Laparotomy management: salpingostomy, segmental resection, fimbrial expression, salpingectomy. **Results:** Lower abdominal pain was most common presenting symptom of ectopic pregnancy in 88% cases. The classical triad of symptoms (amenorrhea, abdominal pain and vaginal bleeding) was present in only 42% cases. PID contributed 4% cases and previous abortion contributed 7% cases indicating these two as the common risk factors. Ampulla was the commonest site of pregnancy, in 63% cases. Salpingostomy was performed in this site. 10% cases were treated medically (methotrexate). These were the cases having unruptured ectopic pregnancy and ectopic mass <4cm. laparoscopy was done in 10% cases and open laparotomy in 82% cases. **Conclusions:** ectopic pregnancy is a treatable problem. Ultrasonography plays a central role in the diagnosis and management. Mode of therapy is determined by a combination of clinical symptoms, USG findings and serum β HCG values. Surgical management is still the cornerstone of management of ectopic pregnancy. But new scope of medical and laparoscopic management is also there.

Keywords: Advances Management Ectopic Pregnancy Medical Laparoscopic Laparotomy

1. Ectopic Pregnancy

When fertilized ovum gets implanted at site other than the normal position of uterine cavity it is known as Ectopic Gestation. It is a leading cause of maternal mortality and morbidity in first trimester and also cause reduced child bearing potential.

Increased **INCIDENCE** of Ectopic Gestation is due to – dramatic rise in PID (7-10 fold) – increased awareness and use of intrauterine devices – ART (Artificial Reproductive Therapy)

Objectives of the study are – study the incidence in various age groups – to study its predisposing factors – to study the different modes of clinical presentation – to study changing trends of modern management from radical surgical method to medical management and laparoscopic surgeries.

Course of Ectopic Pregnancy: Spontaneous resolution – tubal abortion – pelvic hematocele – hematosalpinx – tubal rupture – rupture followed by secondary abdominal pregnancy.

Diagnostic Modalities for Ectopic Pregnancy

- 1) **Serial B-HCG titre** – 66% rise in B-HCG titre is seen at 2 days in normal intrauterine pregnancy (IUP). – discriminating zone is 1500 IU/ml of B-HCG. At this level IUP must be located. – there is a decrease of 21%–35% of B-HCG levels if spontaneous abortion occurs. Slower decrease or slow increase suggests Ectopic Gestation – in 17% patients with ectopic pregnancy B-HCG doubling time is normal.
- 2) **Progesterone level** – poor diagnostic value – >25 ng/ml suggests normal IUP. – <5 ng/ml suggests abortion. – ectopic pregnancy 5–25 ng/ml – limitations include patients undergoing infertility treatment via IVF.
- 3) Features seen on **TVS (Transvaginal ultrasound)** – Ectopic cardiac activity – $>$ diagnosis is 100% – ectopic

gestational sac – strong evidence – ectopic mass & fluid in POD – \rightarrow moderately strong evidence

- 4) **Colour Doppler** – Ring of Fire Sign seen around a cold uterus is diagnostic of ectopic gestation on colour Doppler ultrasound.
- 5) **Laparoscopy** is rarely used for diagnosis. Diagnostic scopy can be converted to therapeutic scopy and treatment can be achieved simultaneously.

2. Management

Medical management Selection criteria – mass <3.5 cm – B-HCG <4000 mIU/ml – <6 weeks gestational age – absent cardiac activity – no hemoperitoneum – hemodynamically stable patient – well compliant and well counselled patient. **Methotrexate regimen** – single dose – 50 mg/m² IM – β HCG on day 4 and 7 should decrease by 15% of the initial level – if it persists on day 7, repeat the dose (max 4 doses) – if it decreases do weekly β HCG till Ectopic Pregnancy resolves (<10 mIU).

3. Materials and Methods

The study includes a study of **68** cases of **Ectopic Pregnancy** in General Hospital over a period of Two Years from August 2013 to July 2015 in Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

Main **AIMs** to study Management of Ectopic Gestation by different modalities including Medical management and Surgical management by Laparoscopy and Laparotomy.

4. Observation and Discussion

INCIDENCE: ATVSGH

Total number of pregnancy 22084

Total number of ectopic 68

Incidence of ectopic preg. (In pregnancy) 1 : 320

Total no. of delivery 17340
 Total no. of delivery (emergency) 5598
 Total no. of delivery (register) 11642
 Total no. of V. mole 29
 Total no. of abortion 1593
 Total no. of bleed PV 1045 (44.6%)

Incidence of ectopic pregnancy in bleeding PV patient 21.60%

Incidence of ectopic pregnancy is increasing due to increase incidence of pelvic. Inflammatory disease, tubal surgery, popularity of contraceptives, ART etc.

In my study majority of females prefer Oral Contraceptive pills over IUCDs. This may be reason for low incidence of ectopic pregnancies in our population.

Clinical profile	No. of cases(%)
Age in years	
20 or less	12
21-30	15
>30	71
Parity	
Primipara	30
Secondpara	24
Third para	7
>third para	7
Symptoms	
Lower abdominal pain	88
Amenorrhoea	69
Bleeding per vaginum	72
Syncope	18
Nausea and Vomiting	20
Signs	
Abdominal tenderness	60
Tender cervical motion	56
Mass in fornix	57
Marked pallor	39
Risk factors	
PID	6
Abortion	10
Infertility	15
Pelvic surgery	7
Unexplained	26

Table 1 shows clinical profile and risk factors of women having ectopic pregnancy. In our study majority of women were >30 years of age and were nulliparous.

The most common presenting symptom was lower abdominal pain ,in 88% women. On examination 18% women presented with marked pallor and shock. These women were given blood and blood products.

The diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy was suspected from clinical features confirmed on the bass of UPT, ultrasonography and serum βHCG levels.

Table 2: Mode of Treatment

Treatment	Number	Percentage
Surgical	64	92.75 %
Laparotomy	57	82.60 %
Laparoscopy	7	10.14%
MedicalTreatment with METHOTREXATE	7	10.14%

Total 3 cases managed with medical treatment, out of them two cases required a lapartomy even after methotrexate so that the total number of cases manage with the laparotomy were 57. In my study majority of patients 92.75% treated with surgery out of them 82.60% cases were treated with laparotomy and 10.14% case managed with laparoscopic surgery.

Table 3: Per Operative Findings (A) Site of EP

Site of EP	Number	Percentage
TUBAL		
Ampullary	44	63.76 %
Isthmic	16	23.18%
Fimbrial	3	4.3%
Ovarian	3	4.3%
Cervical	1	1.44 %
Abdominal	1	1.44%
Comual	1	1.44%

Table 3 : (B) Side of Tube

Side of Tube	Number	Percentage
Rt. Tube	40	57.97%
Lt. Tube	27	39.13%

Table 4: Type of Surgery

Type of Surgery	Number	Percentage
Conservative surgery		
Salpingostomy	1	1.44%
Salpingotomy	-	-
Radical surgery		
Salpingectomy	58	84.05 %
Saipingoopherectomy	9	10.14%

Table 5: Fate

Site	Ruptured	Unruptured	Tubal Abortion	Chronic	Total
Ampullary	24	10	6	4	44
Isthmic	13	2	1	0	16
Fimbrial	1	1	0	1	3
Ovarian	1	1	0	.1	3
Cornual	1	0	0	0	1
Abdominal	1	0	0	0	1
Total	41	14	7	6	68

In my study there were fourteen patients with unruptured ectopic pregnancy. We tried medical management in seven patient, while in four patient USG showed Gestational sac more than 4 cm and in 2 cases βhcG was more than 15,000 which were not fit for medical management. There were seven patient of unruptured ectopic pregnancy managed surgically.

And in another six patient surgeon had choosen laparotomy.

Table 7

Region	Laparoscopy	Laparotomy	Medically
Ampullary			
Ruptured	5(19.23%)	19(73.07%)	0 (0%)
Unruptured	1 (8.33 %)	6 (50 %)	5(41.66%)
Isthmic			
Ruptured	1 (7.69) %	12(92.30%)	0 (0 %)
Unruptured	0	1 (50 %)	1 (50 %)
Fimbrial			
Ruptured	0	1 (100%)	0
Unruptured	0	0	1 (100%)

The above table 7 shows distribution of cases according to mode of treatment, site of ectopic pregnancy and fate of ectopic pregnancy

5. Discussion

The proportion of ectopic pregnancy was 1:320 at our institute. It is commonly found in young age group. In our study 71% women were between the age group of 21-30 years. Majority of women 30% were nulliparous. As per the study of Priti et al, 75% of the women were between the age group of 21-30 years and 36.7% women were nulliparous.

In our study, the risk factors mainly associated with women with ectopic pregnancy were history of PID, in 21% women, abortion in 7% women and infertility in 7% women. PID being the most common etiological factor and by far the most preventable, efforts for early diagnosis and prompt treatment must be developed in OPD cases itself. The Gharoro et al study in fact shows that PID was associated with 41% and previous abortion was associated with 63% of women with ectopic pregnancy.

In our study, two women had previous history of ectopic pregnancy. Out of which one woman had undergone partial salpingectomy of right tube and later had ruptured ectopic pregnancy of the isthmic part of the same tube. The other women had been operated for left sided ectopic pregnancy and later operated for right ruptured ampullary ectopic pregnancy in the form of right salpingectomy. In a study by Bennetot et al, the incidence of recurrence of ectopic pregnancy is 19% irrespective of treatment given for original ectopic pregnancy. In our study we had one patient with scar ectopic pregnancy of 6 weeks gestation.

The presenting symptoms of these women were most commonly lower abdominal pain 88% and amenorrhoea found in 69% women. In the study of Gharoro et al lower abdominal pain was present in 83.6% and amenorrhoea in 77.6% women. Fainting was experienced by 8(14.8%) women, which was due to significant intraperitoneal haemorrhage. Abdominal tenderness was present in 60(86%) women and cervical motion tenderness was present in 56(81%) women which is comparable to Majhiet et al, in which cervical motion tenderness was present in 82.2% women.

Also a high degree of clinical suspicion of ectopic with any of the risk factors must be considered ectopic unless proved otherwise, and must be considered ectopic unless proved otherwise, and must be monitored with serial β HCG estimation and ultrasonography until localization of pregnancy is confirmed.

In the present study medical management was done in women having unruptured ectopic pregnancy and mass of ectopic gestation <4cm. In our study success rate of medical treatment was 72% as laparotomy was required in two women out of 7 women who were managed by medical treatment.

Of those women who were treated either by laparoscopy or by laparotomy, salpingectomy is performed in 58%, partial

salpingectomy in 11% and salpingotomy in 1%. In women with ruptured ectopic pregnancy, often the tube was shattered and bleeding or the ectopic mass was large. In such women, conservative surgery was not always possible and radical surgery was performed. Conservative surgery is not followed by an increased risk of repeat ectopic pregnancy should be taken into account when deciding on operative procedure.

In our study, laparoscopy was performed in 10% women. Laparoscopic surgery has its own advantages over laparotomy of being minimally invasive, early post operative recovery and early ambulation of patient. Ruptured ectopic does not necessarily warrant a laparotomy and laparoscopy can be performed if bleeding is less and patient is haemodynamically stable.

In our study, successful management of ectopic pregnancy by laparotomy was higher in 82.6% women compared to laparoscopies that were successful in 10% women. This was due to the fact that before reaching to our tertiary care hospital, most of the women seek help at primary, secondary, or private health care centres or they report late. This leads to loss of precious time and women were brought with ruptured ectopic pregnancy with stage 2 and stage 3 shock with large haemoperitoneum requiring emergency laparotomy and transfusion of blood and blood products.

6. Conclusion

Analysis of 68 cases of ectopic pregnancy during the last two and half years is presented here. Ectopic pregnancy still remains potentially most critical gynecological emergency. Incidence of ectopic pregnancy is rising due to increased incidence of PID, Tubal surgery, ART. In diagnosis of ectopic pregnancy, abdominal pain and tenderness remain the most constant features along with amenorrhea. Due to revolution in technology, advanced diagnostic technique like USG, β hCG assessment laparoscopy results in early detections even in unruptured state. Hemodynamic stability is essential for conservative management of the patient. The mortality and morbidity associated with ectopic pregnancy has reduced dramatically over last decades due to -Earlier diagnosis even in unruptured form. -Improved resuscitative measures and availability of 24 hours blood banks. -Good operative techniques and facilities. -Modern anesthetic agents and techniques. -Better antibiotic coverage. So, the mortality associated with condition is zero in my case study.

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