



## **A case report of a sonographic prenatal diagnosis of a fetal intra abdominal umbilical vein varix**

Turgut E, Ozdemir H, Calis P, Karcaaltincaba D, Bayram M  
Gazi University, ANKARA, Turkey

### **Objective**

Fetal intraabdominal umbilical vein varix (UVV) is defined as a focal dilatation of the umbilical venous diameter at the level of cord insertion. The umbilical vein varix is rare and the condition can be diagnosed by antenatal ultrasound. Color-flow Doppler can be helpful for the diagnosis. There are different nomograms for umbilical vein diameter. The average diameter of the umbilical vein is 2 mm at 14 to 15 weeks of gestation and 7 to 8 mm at term. The presence of umbilical ven varix increases fetal mortality, morbidity and it associated with intrauterine fetal death, chromosomal abnormalities, fetal hydrops and other adverse pregnancy outcomes. We present two cases of UVV at our institute.

### **Methods**

This is a case report.

### **Results**

Case 1, a 39 years old patient gravida 2, para 1 presented at 33 weeks gestation, for a routine antenatal sonographic examination. Ultrasounds showed 13x15 mm an anechoic oval-shaped and well- limited cyst in the fetal abdomen immediately cephalad to umbilical vein insertion. Venous flow was observed on color doppler. Varix diameter was  $> 2$  DS above the mean for the gestational age. There was not other anomalies. At 37 weeks of gestation the varix size was 18x15mm and there was no complication such as growth restriction, preterm labor. Case 2 was a 34 years old patient gravida 3, para 1 and 1 abortion. A 10x8mm anechoic cyst was seen in the intra-abdominal part of the extrahepatic umbilical vein at 24 weeks of gestation with a venous flow on color doppler. At 34 weeks of gestation the varix increase slightly in size (11x10 mm). The patient is currently at term. The follow-up did not reveal any complication.

### **Conclusion**

The detection of the fetal intra-abdominal umbilical vein varix is easy with careful screening by ultrasound. Fetal karyotyping should be offered if there are other abnormalities observed on ultrasound. Monitoring of the fetal growth and wellbeing is required. We presented two case of fetal intra-abdominal umbilical vein varix with no complication.