



Necessity of the close collaboration between the sonographer and the pathologist for a successful congenital fetal abnormalities management

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Objective

This is a case report of a fetal upper extremity malformation diagnosed during the first-trimester screening. The discrepancy between the sonographic and pathological findings can be a source of serious problems.

Methods

A case report.

Results

The patient underwent a combined screening test in the first trimester of pregnancy in our department. The individual risk of trisomy of the chromosomes 21, 18, 13 was low. An abnormality in the left forearm and hand was diagnosed during the scan. The second trimester scan was suggested to the patient, but she finally decided to terminate the pregnancy at 17th weeks of gestation in another hospital. Local pathologists, not routinely working in the field of fetal abnormality pathologies, described the microscopic finding as normal, because the radius and ulna were microscopically present. This discrepancy between the ultrasonographer's and the pathologist's finding became the source of the forensic proceeding.

Conclusion

The presence of experienced fetal abnormality pathologists working closely with the obstetric team with the exact description of ultrasound and pathological findings is a necessity in order to offer the right management and follow up.

