



## Medical termination of pregnancy - six years experience of a tertiary hospital

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### Objective

The objectives of this study were firstly, to review the cases of terminations (TOP) performed at the Prenatal Diagnosis (PND) Unit of Hospital Professor Doutor Fernando Fonseca, Portugal, secondly to identify the indications/causes of TOP and thirdly to review the results of post-mortem findings.

### Methods

This was a retrospective observational study with review of TOP medical records between January 2012 and December 2017. Microsoft Excel 2010 was used for the statistical analysis.

### Results

During the study period, we identified 105 cases of TOP. Average maternal age was 32 years, and median TOP gestational age was 18 weeks (10. 5% were after 24 weeks' gestation). The of indications of TOP were: chromosomal abnormalities in 49 cases (46. 7%), structural defects in 38 cases (36. 2%), other fetal causes in 11 cases (10. 5%) and maternal causes in 7 cases (6. 7%). As expected in the group of chromosomal abnormalities the average maternal age was higher; age 36 years ( $p < 0, 000007$ ). The prenatal diagnosis was confirmed by postmortem examination in 66% of cases of structural defects and other fetal causes groups.

### Conclusion

Chromosomal abnormalities and structural defects are the main causes of termination of pregnancy. In the cases of structural defects in euploid fetuses a postmortem examination was not always concordant with the ultrasound findings. A possible explanation for this discrepancy could be that postmortem examination of pregnancy products after a TOP before <18 weeks can be limited.