

Use of pre-operative imaging for symptomatic uterine myomas during pregnancy: A case report and a systematic literature review

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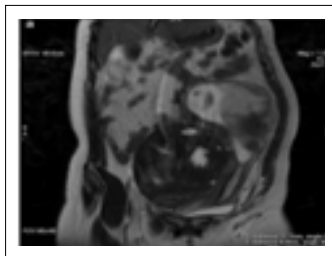
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Abstract

Uterine fibroids (UFs) occur in 10% of pregnancies and may lead to severe maternal–fetal complications, mainly depending on UFs characteristics and the distance to the uterine cavity (UC). When symptomatic, UFs are managed medically. Nevertheless, in about 2% of cases, surgery becomes necessary. Entry into the UC should be avoided during myomectomy. Consequentially, pre-operative assessment of this risk could be beneficial. Ultrasonography (US) represents the gold standard for UFs assessment; however, scarce evidence has been produced to assess the role of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). The aim of the present study was to summarize current evidence about the pre-operative use of imaging techniques for UFs during pregnancy. A systematic research of the literature was conducted in Scopus, PubMed/MEDLINE, ScienceDirect and the Cochrane Library, including case reports and case series. A case report was also discussed. We collected data regarding patients, imaging assessment, UFs characteristics, surgical information, timing and modality of delivery. According to our search strategy, 66 articles were selected and 210 patients were included. US assessment was reported in 36 (17%) cases. MRI was reported in 10 (4.7%) cases. Only in one case, MRI was used to measure the distance between UFs and UC. US allows an adequate pre-operative evaluation of anterior, submucosal or pedunculated symptomatic UFs in pregnancy. However, compared to US, MRI may provide a more accurate evaluation of multiple, large, intramural or posterior UFs and could measure the distance between UFs and UC more accurately. Distance between myoma and uterine cavity evaluated with MRI: the larger myoma has a distance to uterine cavity ranging between 9.8 and 11.7 mm. valentigaetano@gmail.com.

Biography

Valenti Gaetano shows devotion to clinical and research works. He focuses his efforts both in Obstetrics and Gynaecology fields. Particularly, he has always shown interest in gynecological oncology and urogynaecology fields. He performed his medical graduation thesis in collaboration with The Gynaecological Oncology Multidisciplinary Team of Oxford (U.K.). He also attended a surgical training of six months at the University Medical Centre, Department of Gynaecology of Ljubljana, Slovenia. He has expertise in the diagnostic gynecology field, focusing on hysteroscopy and ultrasound evaluation.



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