Abstract

Objective: To report a case of vasa previa and a review of the literature in terms of the pathogenesis, pre-natal ultrasound diagnosis, and perinatal prognosis. Materials and methods: We present a case of a 44 year-old woman in her 36th week of gestation who came to Hospital Manuel Uribe Ángel (HMUA), a level II public referral center in Envigado, Antioquia. The clinical record was used as a source of information. The search of the literature was conducted using the key words vasa previa, ultrasonography, prognosis in the Medline databases through PubMed between 1993 and 2013, in English and Spanish. The search focused on topic reviews, systematic reviews, and case reports. Results: Overall, 35 articles were found, all the references were analyzed, resulting in 22 case reports, 8 topic reviews, and 5 systematic reviews. Conclusions: Vasa previa is an infrequent obstetrical complication. Ultrasound placental assessment is a useful tool to determine umbilical cord insertion and potential abnormalities. Prognosis is poor, with high rates of fetal mortality in the absence of pre-natal diagnosis.

Keywords

Vasa previa, ultrasonography, prognosis.