

## **Prenatal diagnosis of vasa previa**

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Vasa previa is a rarely reported condition (1/3000) in which fetal blood vessels cross the internal cervical os as a velamentous insertion of the umbilical cord.

Rupture of these vessels at the time of spontaneous or artificial rupture of the membranes frequently results in fetal exsanguination and death. The diagnosis must be antenatal and elective delivery by cesarean section is needed to reduce obstetrical complications. Transvaginal ultrasound in combination with color and pulsed Doppler is the most effective tool in the prenatal diagnosis of vasa previa.

We report a case of vasa previa diagnosed in a patient referred for further management at 26 week's gestation because antepartum hemorrhage. The ultrasound examination revealed an anterior low lying placenta with a posterior succenturiate lobe. Aberrant fetal vessels between the fetal presenting part and the internal cervical os were detected with color and pulsed Doppler. Elective cesarean section at 34 week's gestation was arranged due to preterm labor.

Pregnancies with ultrasound low-lying placentae diagnosis or with antepartum hemorrhage may benefit from meticulous determination of the placental cord insertion site. As a result, elective caesarean section could be planned to warrant favorable neonatal outcome.