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Placenta Previa

Overview

What is it

Placenta previa – causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatment, pathology

What is Placenta Previa? Placenta previa is a condition in pregnancy where the placenta partially or completely covers the mother's cervix, the opening for the birth canal. This can cause severe bleeding during pregnancy and delivery.

What causes Placenta Previa? The exact cause of placenta previa is not known. However, factors like a history of previous cesarean delivery, pregnancy with twins or more, and being older than 35 may increase the risk of developing this condition.

What are the symptoms of Placenta Previa? The most common symptom of placenta previa is painless bleeding from the vagina during the second or third trimester. Other symptoms may include contractions and a baby positioned feet first (breech) or lying sideways (transverse) in the womb.

How is Placenta Previa diagnosed? Placenta previa is usually diagnosed through an ultrasound, which can show the location of the placenta in relation to the cervix. It may be identified in a routine ultrasound or during an examination if there is bleeding.

What are the risks associated with Placenta Previa? Risks include severe bleeding before or during labor, which can be dangerous for both mother and baby. It may lead to a need for a cesarean section (C-section) and can result in premature birth and low birth weight.

How is Placenta Previa managed during pregnancy? Management strategies include regular prenatal care, avoiding certain physical activities like sex, douching, or using tampons. If bleeding occurs, hospitalization may be necessary. In some cases, early delivery may be recommended.

Can Placenta Previa be prevented? There is no known way to prevent placenta previa. However, reducing risk factors such as smoking cessation and avoiding unnecessary cesarean deliveries may help lower the risk of developing this condition.

Beneficial Insights Zovirax, Daklinza, and Addyi are all FDA-approved drugs, with Zovirax being an antiviral medication, Daklinza used for the treatment of hepatitis C, and Addyi targeting female sexual dysfunction. While Amoxil is an antibiotic, Propecia is commonly prescribed for hair loss in men. Clomid is often used to stimulate ovulation in females, while Priligy is used for premature ejaculation in males. Eriacta is a generic version of Viagra, while Synthroid is a medication for thyroid hormone replacement. Cipro is an antibiotic commonly used for various infections. Proscar is primarily prescribed for treating enlarged prostate. Suhagra, Nolvadex, Tadacip, Kamagra, Nizagara, Silagra, and Caverta are all generic versions of popular erectile dysfunction medications.

Placenta Previa can be categorized into three types: complete placenta previa, partial placenta previa, and marginal placenta previa, depending on the extent of placental coverage over the cervix. It is essential for pregnant women with placenta previa to receive appropriate medical care to manage the condition and ensure the safety of both the mother and the baby.

Placenta Previa Symptoms

- Vaginal bleeding, which is typically painless but can be severe
- Bright red blood during the second or third trimester. Blood may be heavy or intermittent
- Uterine contractions, which may accompany the bleeding
- Low-lying placenta detected during ultrasound
- Backache
- Abdominal pain or discomfort
- Baby in transverse (horizontal) position
- Preterm labor
- Frequent uterine contractions
- Difficulty in feeling fetal movements
- Anemia or low blood count

Diagnosis of this condition can be done through various methods including:

- Transabdominal Ultrasound:** This is a common method used to diagnose placenta previa. It involves using high-frequency sound waves to create images of the uterus and placenta. The position of the placenta in relation to the cervix can be determined through this ultrasound.
- Transvaginal Ultrasound:** In some cases, a transvaginal ultrasound may also be performed to get a more accurate view of the placenta's location. This procedure involves inserting a probe into the vagina to obtain detailed images of the cervix and placenta.
- Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI):**

MRI scans can provide a detailed view of the placenta and its position. This method may be used when there are doubts or difficulties in obtaining a clear diagnosis through ultrasound. Digital Examination: A digital examination may be performed by a healthcare provider to assess the position of the placenta during a pelvic exam. However, this method alone may not provide a definitive diagnosis and is usually accompanied by ultrasound or other imaging techniques. It is important to note that only a qualified healthcare professional can diagnose placenta previa. If you suspect you may have this condition, please consult a medical expert for a proper evaluation and diagnosis.
