

The importance of antenatal scans in the diagnosis of Vein of Galen Malformation(VGAM).

S.Sayed¹ , S. Joung²

1-Senior Resident Medical Officer, 2-Staff Specialist Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Nepean Hospital

Aim: To present a very rare case of Vein of Galen Malformation.

Background: The Vein of Galen Malformation is a rare and dramatic form of embryonic arteriovenous shunt located in the midline in the choroidal fissure. It represents 1% of abnormalities of fetal cerebral AV systems. VGAMs are occasionally detected on antenatal ultrasound scans. Antenatal magnetic resonance imaging will confirm the diagnosis and allow assessment of any pre-existing damage to the brain.

Case: 24 yrs old female, G1P0 at 23 weeks of pregnancy was referred from a rural hospital in November, 2021 with fetal chorioangioma, pericardial effusion and high MCA PSV-initially thought to be hyperdynamic circulation due to placental chorioangioma. Cordocentesis showed Hb as 127 and platelet 244. Attempt to devascularise the chorioangioma was made. Further frequent scans done to check progress revealed vein of Galen malformation and confirmed on MRI at 26 weeks.

MRI done at 32+4 weeks showed VOGM with white matter changes, hydrocephalus, cardiomegaly, oedema suggestive of hydrops. MDT discussion with the patient with extensive counselling was done and decision for TOP was made by the family due to poor prognosis. Medical TOP was initiated with Misoprostol and patient delivered the fetus at 33+6 with uneventful postnatal period.



Conclusion: Vein of Galen malformation is a rare but known fetal vascular anomaly with mixed prognosis depending on its progression. Early detection through antenatal scans helps in management and prognosis of fetuses and to ensure timely support is provided to pregnant women going through the process both physically and emotionally.