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ABSTRACT

Objective:

To compare the outcome following surgical versus expectant management of incomplete miscarriage.

Design and setting:

A randomized clinical trial carried out at the university gynaecology unit, North Colombo teaching hospital, Ragama, Sri Lanka for a period of nine months commencing from 1st August 2005.

Method:

One hundred and five consecutive women presenting with incomplete miscarriage at a period of gestation of 14 weeks or less were allocated randomly to surgical and expectant management groups. The surgical group underwent evacuation of retained products of conception within 24 hours after ultrasound evaluation. The expectant group received inward treatment until bleeding settled following which they were discharged and followed up weekly up to 4 weeks.

Outcome measures:

The efficacy of surgical and expectant management was taken as the main outcome measure.

The mean drop in haemoglobin within the first week, duration of hospital stay and incidence of complications were taken as other outcome variables.