

Abstract

D-1298

Title

Intraumbilical vein oxytocin for retained placentae ; Is it effective ?

Rationale

Manual removal of retained placentae is associated with significant maternal morbidity and carries a risk of mortality

Objective

To determine the place of intraumbilical vein oxytocin in the management of retained placentae. *ie.* to determine whether intraumbilical vein injection of oxytocin in cases of retained placentae will lead to expulsion of the placentae and thus reduces the need for manual removal of the retained placentae..

Design

A prospective interventional study (phase I clinical trial)

Setting

Three labour wards of two Teaching Hospitals in Colombo South and Galle.

Subjects

Eighty eight consecutive women showing no evidence of placental separation twenty minutes after a vaginal delivery, on the days that the investigator was on duty.

Intervention

Intraumbilical vein injection of 10 IU oxytocin.

Main outcome measures

Time taken for spontaneous expulsion of placentae after intraumbilical vein oxytocin injection.

Need for manual removal after twenty five minutes of intraumbilical vein injection of oxytocin.

Results

In 51.2% of the subjects the intervention was successful and the placentae was delivered within twenty five minutes of the intervention with a mean time of expulsion of 11.5 minutes (SD 5.7). Of these subjects in seven the placentae was expelled in approximately five minutes and in eight in approximately fifteen minutes.

Conclusion

Intraumbilical vein injection of oxytocin is an effective therapeutic option for the management of retained placentae.