

Summary

A 40year old unmarried postpartum mother from Moratuwa who was an ex- commercial sex worker was referred to Sexually Transmitted Disease clinic (STD), Colombo South Teaching hospital (CSTH) due to non-reactive VDRL and positive TPPA test results following delivery.

This patient didn't receive any antenatal care as she had concealed her pregnancy. She admitted to CSTH with labour pain at 34 weeks of gestation and delivered an apparently healthy baby girl by emergency LSCS. The baby was given for adoption 2 days after the delivery as she was unmarried and didn't have good family support to raise the baby.

She attended to STD clinic on postpartum day 20. At presentation to the clinic she didn't have any clinical features related to syphilis and she had not been treated for syphilis previously. She was diagnosed as having late latent syphilis and treated with oral doxycycline 100mg twice a day for 30 days as she had given a history of allergic reaction to penicillin group of drugs.

She was unable to provide contact details of her sex partners for screening and management.

As she was not treated during pregnancy, her baby was identified as a case of congenital syphilis. Though legal parents were informed repeatedly, the baby was not brought to STD clinic for treatment and care.