

Does Prophylactic abdominal cerclage in triplet pregnancies improve pregnancy outcome?

Rami Kilani, MD, FACOG, MRCOG, RDMS, Hashemite University,
Zarqa Jordan

Methods:

Data from 39 women with triplet gestations undergoing abdominal cerclage at a single institution were compared to data identified from a database containing prospectively collected information from women enrolled by their physicians for outpatient perinatal nursing services that did not have a cerclage placed. Patients in the control group of women without cerclage were enrolled for outpatient preterm labor identification services at <20 weeks' gestation.

Results:

39 women in the treatment group were compared to 279 women in the control group. Mean age of both groups was around 32 years; percentage of nullipara's women in both groups was around 65%.

Gestational age at time of delivery for the treatment group was 32.7 weeks and 32.4 weeks for the control group (p value 0.191). Hospitalization for preterm labour was 69.2% for the treatment group and 67.7% for the control group (P value 1,00). Hospitalization days for the treatment group were 8.9 days and 6 days for the control group (P value 0.050).

30.8% of women in the treatment group delivered before completing 32 weeks and 32.3% of women in the control arm delivered before 32 weeks (P value 0.094). Only two babies in this study delivered before 24 weeks and they both were in the control arm of the study.

Conclusion:

Prophylactic abdominal cerclage does not improve pregnancy outcome in high order multiples.