PERINATAL CARE OF FETUSES WITH HETEROXY SYNDROME

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OBJECTIVES

To evaluate the spectrum of prenatal findings and obstetric perinatal care of fetuses with heterotaxy syndrome.

METHODS

Fetal echocardiography findings, perinatal care and obstetric outcomes of 37 fetuses with HS were evaluated retrospectively.

RESULTS

- 27 (73%) infants were delivered by vaginal delivery, 6 (16 %) by elective cesarean section and 4 (11%) by urgent CS
- In 10 cases there was bradycardia in cardiotocography, normal variability was observed in 22 cases, low variability in one case, high variability in one case
- There were only 3 cases of Apgar score less than 7 at 5 minutes and no cases of umbilical cord blood pH<7.0

CONCLUSIONS

- The detection of associated cardiac and extracardiac abnormalities is important in order to give the best indication of the likely outcome when counseling parents.
- Vaginal delivery is safe for these fetuses, so CS should be reserved only for traditional obstetric indications.
- Electronic fetal monitoring is not always possible due to rhythm disturbances, especially in LAI.