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Birth weight discordance and placenta pathology: A Canadian study

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The purpose of this study was to assess the fetal, perinatal and maternal outcomes in twin pregnancy according to chorionicity. This was a retrospective cohort study of 1571 twin pregnancies with placental pathological examination collected during a decade. Fetal, neonatal and maternal outcomes of twins were compared via multivariate analysis. Placenta anastomosis, unequal placenta sharing, cord size and cord insertion type were found to be the key elements that impacted growth discordance in twin gestations. Higher rates of severe growth discordance were negatively associated with higher frequencies of anastomosis. Placentas in monochorionic twins were more likely to have shared arteries/veins. Monochorionic placentas compensate for lack of nutritional flow by penetrating to other placenta surfaces. Compensation for lack of vascular sufficiency would mean a fused placenta or sharing more portions of the placenta. Higher rates of unequal placenta sharing among growth discordant twins were reported irrespective of chorionicity. We concluded that attention to placenta pathology is of great important in growth discordant twins.

Biography

Shayesteh Jahanfar is a Reproductive Epidemiologist with grounding in Public Health and Biostatistics. She completed her first PhD in Obstetrics and Gynecology from the University of New South Wales, Australia (1995) and her second PhD in Epidemiology and Healthcare from the University of British Columbia, Canada (2016). She has 23 years of academic experience in Reproductive Health and over 70 peer reviewed publications. Her research focuses on Reproductive Health, Women and Children's Health, and Genetic Versus Environment Studies. She has established a number of twin studies in Australia, Malaysia, and Canada. She has conducted several epidemiological studies and produced over 15 systematic reviews in the areas of HIV/AIDS, Domestic Violence, Family Planning, Ultrasound Screening and Breastfeeding.

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