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Objective histopathological scoring system for placental pathology in Pre-eclampsia and eclampsia

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Background: Preeclampsia-eclampsia syndrome is a common medical condition that complicates pregnancy due to uteroplacental vascular insufficiency. More than 38% of patients in pregnancy succumb to seizures without qualifying the clinical criteria of pre-eclampsia or eclampsia. This necessitates the importance of a confirmatory diagnosis of pre-eclampsia or eclampsia using the histopathological changes seen in placenta. The present study is undertaken to devise an objective histological scoring system for appropriate diagnosis of normal, pre-eclampsia or eclampsia.

Material & Methods: In this prospective study conducted at PES Institute of Medical Sciences, Andhra Pradesh, India, 50 cases of preeclampsia/eclampsia and equal number of control placenta were collected along with relevant clinical details. The placentas were examined for histomorphological changes in both groups. A histopathological scoring system was formulated to assess the severity of preeclampsia-eclampsia syndrome. A maximum score of 2 and minimum score of 0 was provided for infarcts, calcification, villous basement membrane thickening and fibrin deposition. Syncytial knots were provided a maximum score of 0 and minimum score of 1.

Results: We found significant difference between the cases and controls in distribution of all histopathological parameters with all parameters. Most placenta with a total score of 2 were normal. Most placenta with pre-eclampsia and eclampsia had a score of 4 and 6 respectively. The median comprehensive objective scores incorporating above parameters of 2.00, 4.00 and 6.00 were obtained for normal, pre-eclampsia and eclampsia respectively.

Conclusion: This comprehensive scoring system can be a basis for validating reporting patterns of placenta in pre-eclampsia and eclampsia.

Biography

Deepak Donthi has completed his MBBS from Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, India. He continued his education, by completing Master's in Public Health from University of Texas and Post-graduate degree in Pathology from PES Institute of Medical Sciences and Research. He has published 2 papers in peer reviewed journals. He is currently a Resident in the East Carolina University Vidant Medical Center.

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