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Persistent pregnancy of unknown location

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About 1 in 5 early pregnancy presentation will not be localized on initial ultrasound scan. These pregnancy of unknown location (PUL) are frustrating for both the woman and the clinician, particularly if serial ultrasound scans fail to visualize the pregnancy and serial serum β hCG fail to demonstrate spontaneous resolution. Concerns of ectopic pregnancy may lead the clinician to perform diagnostic interventions such as laparoscopy or dilatation & curettage of the uterus. These carry operative risks and may inadvertently terminate an early pregnancy. Conversely, failure to investigate these cases may miss trophoblastic neoplasia. There is no consensus as to the duration of follow-up in a PUL before it is considered a 'persistent PUL' where intervention may be warranted. The author will discuss the basis of classification of persistent PUL and management algorithm.

Biography

Toh Lick Tan graduated from King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of London in 1997. He completed his obstetrics and gynaecology specialization in London, England and was appointed consultant in 2008. He was the lead consultant for gynaecology emergencies and set up the Early Pregnancy Unit in Ealing Hospital, London. He is currently working in KK Women's and Children's Hospital, Singapore and holds appointment as clinical lecturer with Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS). He has published in peer-reviewed journals and is on the British Journal of Medical Practitioners' peer reviewers board.

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