Diagnosis of encephalocele in a monochorionic diamniotic twin pregnancy in the first trimester and its management

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Case Presentation

A G2P1 Lch1, 32 years old pregnant woman with a monochorionic twin pregnancy was referred in the first trimester of pregnancy to determine whether there was a mono or diamniotic MC twin pregnancy. Images from ultrasound exam showed a diamniotic MC twin pregnancy. The second fetus had a small choroid plexus.(Figure 1) The first twin seemed normal. She was requested to come for a repeat scan two weeks later. During this scan at 15 weeks of gestation a 21x17 mm encephalocele was seen at the base of skull of the second twin.(Figure 2) The parents decided to reduce this twin. Amniocentesis was performed to analyse the karyotype of the first fetus who seemed normal. The karyotype was 46XX. Reduction was performed under ultrasound guide by bipolar coagulation at 18 w 6d.

The pregnancy was terminated by cesarean at 36 weeks of gestation due to FGR, increased UmA PI and a history of repeat cesarean delivery. The weight of the alive fetus was 2150 g. The encephalocele existed at the base of skull of the reduced fetus.(Figure 3)

Conclusion

Bipolar coagulation under ultrasound guide is a safe way to reduce a malformed twin in DAMC twins.