OBJECTIVES

The objective of this study was to identify the prognostic factors present in prenatal and perinatal period, that would be helpful in detecting the fetuses and neonates with hypoplastic left heart syndrome which are at an increased risk of death before discharge from hospital.

RESULTS

Our study identified two statistically significant factors of neonatal death before discharge: delivery before 37 weeks of gestation and Caesarean delivery.

The survival rate of neonates delivered before 37 weeks was 38.5% (5/13) vs 67.8% (59/87) in neonates delivered after 37 weeks (p=0.04).

Survival rate of neonates delivered via Caesarean section was 56.3% (36/64) vs 76.3% (29/38) in neonates delivered vaginally (p=0.04).

CONCLUSION

To improve outcome, patients with hypoplastic left heart syndrome should be delivered vaginally and at term.