Teratoma is a neoplasm composed of three germinal layers of the embryo and is made up of several different types of tissue such as hair, muscle and etc. Fetal teratomas are most commonly located in the sacrococcygeal region, followed ovaries, testes and mediastinum. Facial teratoma is very rare, which account for less than 6% of teratomas. We successfully diagnosed the facial teratoma in the early gestation by two- and three-dimensional (2D and 3D) ultrasonography.

Case report

A 30-year-old pregnant woman (gravida 0, para 0) was referred to Asan Medical center because of facial mass at 19+3 weeks of gestation. Her medical and family histories were unremarkable. Her serum α-fetoprotein was high (12.17 multiples of the median). Ultrasonographic findings showed a 72*57mm sized heterogenous solid mass on the lower part of the face (Figure 1A and 1B). Color Doppler revealed several feeding arteries (Figure 1C). The Amniotic fluid index was increased and fetal stomach was relatively small, suggesting that the fetus had difficulty in swallowing. The fetus died in uterus and an autopsy was performed.

The autopsy confirmed immature teratoma, grade 3, extending from the hard palate and protruding into the oral cavity. The tumor was lobulated (Figure 2). There is no communication between the mass and the cranial cavity.

Conclusion

We successfully diagnosed a rare case of facial immature teratoma using of 2D and 3D ultrasonography.