

## Serious foetal complication of severe pre-eclampsia: severe intrauterine growth restriction

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DOI: 10.36129/jog.2024.S111

**Objective.** Intrauterine growth restriction is a common foetal complication of severe pre-eclampsia. The diagnosis is suspected on the basis of inadequate uterine height and is confirmed by ultrasound biometry below the 3<sup>rd</sup> percentile of uterine height. This complication is associated with high neonatal morbidity and mortality if not managed early and appropriately. The aim of this study is to clarify the epidemiological data of patients with intrauterine growth restriction and the management of this condition.

**Materials and Methods.** This is a retrospective and evaluative study. It was carried out in the Department D of the Maternity and Neonatology Centre in Tunis, which is a level 3 maternity hospital. We included all cases of severe intrauterine growth restriction with complications of pre-eclampsia that

were managed in this department during the period January 2018-December 2023.

**Results.** We collected 64 cases of intrauterine growth retardation. The mean age of the pregnant women was 28.3 years. The mean gestational age was 3.4. The mean parity was 1.6. A history of pre-eclampsia was noted in 3 cases. We noted 3 cases of insulin-treated diabetes and 2 cases of treated hypothyroidism. The diagnosis was made.

**Conclusions.** In all cases of pre-eclampsia, the diagnosis was made by biological examination before and after delivery. Growth retardation was the only complication of pre-eclampsia in 40 cases. This complication was associated with renal failure in 18 cases and retroplacental haematoma in 6 cases. Treatment was termination of pregnancy in all cases. Delivery was by caesarean section in 60 cases.