

Clinical Image

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Couvelaire uterus after external cephalic version

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Description

A 30-years-old primiparous woman with 37 weeks of amenorrhoea was admitted to the Obstetric ward with symptoms of ruptured membranes and abdominal pain. The day before she was subjected to an unsuccessful external cephalic version. Transabdominal ultrasonography revealed a breech presentation. The placenta appeared normal. The Cardiotocograph (CTG) showed a nonreassuring pattern with deep variable decelerations. An emergency cesarean section was performed. Intraoperatively, the uterus showed a large intramyometrial hematoma coinciding with the operator's side of the external cephalic version the previous day. A retroplacental hematoma was evidenced after hysterotomy. The diagnosis of placental abruption and Couvelaire's uterus was established. The newborn's 1-minute and 5-minute Apgar scores were 8 and 9, respectively. The postoperative period was good and mother and son are progressing favourably.



Figure