

## Complex diagnosis of pancytopenia in pregnancy: A challenge in diagnosis and management

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Pancytopenia in pregnancy is a very rare event and often haematological malignancy needs to be excluded with thorough and extensive investigations. Hemophagocytosis lymphistiocytosis (HLH) is a rare, cancer-like disorder in which both histiocytes and lymphocytes proliferate and damage body tissues or organs. It can be inherited or acquired due to immune suppression or infection. **Case Description:** We report a challenging case of pancytopenia in pregnancy whereby a primigravida presented at 30 week's gestation with persistent high-grade fever and full blood count showing pancytopenia features. All her cultures did not show any infection and her temperature was not settling despite multiple antibiotics. Her bone marrow aspiration confirmed the diagnosis of HLH. Her delivery was planned in a tertiary hospital with haematology specialist input and subsequent management was continued. **Discussion:** Pancytopenia in pregnancy is a challenging clinical situation to handle which is associated with high maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality. Hence, multidiscipline inputs are crucial to ensure good outcome in this mother.

PP-66

## Fetus in fetu in monochorionic twins: A mass in the body – a rare entity

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### ABSTRACT

**Introduction:** Fetus in fetu (FIF) is a rare malformation (less than 1 in 1 million birth) in which a parasitic twin within the body of its twin, often detected as abdominal mass in infancy. FIF locate in various site of the body, but commonly in retroperitoneum. **Case Description:** Here we describe two unique cases of FIF that were attached to the body of the normally formed twin. Prenatal ultrasound noted mass protruding from oropharyngeal (case 1) and anterior abdominal wall (case 2), with absence of fetal heart of the parasitic twin. Both cases delivered prematurely at 31-35 weeks. Postnatal examination noted partially formed macerated fetus attached to the normal twin. Unfortunately, both babies died after birth due to severe dysmorphic features and prematurity. **Discussion:** FIF is a rare diagnosis and prenatal ultrasound may identify rudimentary organs from early pregnancy. Detection of fetal heart beat facilitates differential diagnosis with teratomas or other mass, providing essential information for parental consulting and management.