Evaluation of the effect oxytocin has on maternal-fetal circulation during induction of labour

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Objective
To evaluate the effect of oxytocin on blood circulation of fetus and uterus by doppler ultrasound.

Methods
46 pregnant women for induction of labour were assigned to receive intravenous oxytocin. Doppler velocitometry before and after administration of oxytocin for umbilical, middle cerebral artery and both uterine artery was performed and pulsatility index (PI), resistance index (RI) and systolic /diastolic ratio (S/D) were measured for these arteries.

Results
There was no difference between PI, RI, and S/D of umbilical, uterine and middle cerebral arteries before and after oxytocin therapy (P>0.05).

Conclusion
During induction of labour, infusion of oxytocin did not have any effect on the uterine or main fetal arterial circulation.