Ultrasound characteristics in thoragopagus pregnancy

Kesrouani A * – Nasr B ^

* Ob-Gyn Department, St Joseph University, Beirut, Lebanon; ^ Fetal care clinic Beirut, Lebanon

- A 38 years old G1P0 underwent IVF-ICSI for male factor. Three embryos grade A were transferred at day 3. No preimplantation diagnosis was done on the embryos. After testing positive for beta HCG, ultrasound showed two sacs in the uterus. She had bleeding at 8 weeks treated by progesterone after checking for heart beats.

- First trimester scan at 12 weeks showed in one sac a normal evolving pregnancy with normal biometry and NT (1.2 mm). In the other sac there was a twin thoragopagus pregnancy. One of these fetuses had also an encephalocele with a visible defect at the occipital region. After explaining the situation the patient decided for a follow-up after two weeks for a possible spontaneous fetal death in this twinning. At that time the thoragopagus twins was still evolving, showing an increased encephalocele. Two hearts were distinctively seen in each side with a complex configuration, the smaller heart being in the fetus with encephalocele, and they were united by at least two vessels. Lower limbs were difficult to assess, and upper limbs were normal. Liver fusion was also suspected at that time. After thorough explanations, the parents chose terminating that pregnancy. This was done with KCl intracardiac injection. The other fetus evolved normally and is already at 33 weeks.

- Conclusion: Thoragopagus twins is a rare congenital anomaly that can be diagnosed at the time of the first trimester scan to offer the parents an option for pregnancy termination.