A case of circumvallate placenta misdiagnosed as an amniotic band

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Objective
To present a case of circumvallate placenta which was misdiagnosed as an amniotic band.

Methods
Case report.

Results
Circumvallate placenta is a placental disease in which the fetal membranes (chorion and amnion) ‘double back’ on the fetal side around the edge of the placenta. Sometimes the free margin of the circumvallate placenta can mimic a fetal membrane such as amniotic bands which have more ominous implications. In this case a 26 year-old primigravida has been referred to our perinatology clinic at 20th weeks of gestation with a diagnosis of amniotic band for further evaluation. Ultrasound examination showed a posterior placenta with infolding of the fetal membrane upon the fetal surface of the placenta. The chorionic plate of the placenta was smaller than the basal plate of the placenta with resultant infolding of the placental margins. The patient has been informed about the diagnosis and possible perinatal risks related to circumvallate placenta.

Conclusion
Circumvallate placenta may be misdiagnosed as an amniotic band since the raised membranes in ultrasonography may appear as a band crossing the gestational sac. If a circumvallate placenta is diagnosed at ultrasound examination, the pregnancy can be classified as high risk. However, there is no increased risk of fetal deformity as with amniotic bands, therefore right diagnosis is important for the appropriate counseling of the patient.