The anomaly scan in detecting anatomical abnormalities

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Objective
To examine the performance of the 20-24 weeks scan in detecting anatomical abnormalities.

Methods
The findings of 1229 anatomy examinations were compared to those of postnatal examination of the newborn. All the scans were performed in our centre by a fetal medicine specialist who had obtained the FMD, using a GE E6 scan machine. The examinations were according to the FMF protocol. The time allocated for each case was 50 minutes.

Results
Fetal abnormalities were observed in 45 (3.7%) of the cases. We were able to diagnose all the cases of hydrocephalus, ventriculomegaly, cranial menigocele, spina bifida, cleft lip and palate, micrognathia, cyst of lacrimal duct, hydronephrosis, renal agenesis, simple renal cyst, club hands, talipes, polydactyly, rib agenesis, diaphragmatic hernia, CCAM, atrial and atrioventricular septal defects, tetralogy of Fallot, dextrocardia, cardiomyopathy, ARSA and lymphangiomas. We diagnosed the one of two cases of rhabdomyoma of the heart, however we failed to identify one case of mild stenosis of the aortic isthmus. The detection rate was 95.5% with false positive rate 2%.

Conclusion
When the anomaly scan is performed to high standards, it is a reliable evaluation of fetal anatomy.