

## **Cervical consistency index or cervical length in predicting imminent preterm delivery in symptomatic patients**

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### **Objective**

To compare the cervical consistency index with the cervical length in predicting imminent preterm delivery in symptomatic patients.

### **Methods**

This prospective study was conducted in women with single pregnancies between 24 and 35 weeks, with a clinical diagnosis of threatened preterm delivery who attended the Central Hospital Dr. Urquinaona, in Maracaibo, Venezuela. At the time of diagnosis, the patients were evaluated using transvaginal ultrasound to establish the values of the cervical consistency index and cervical length. The main result was imminent delivery (in the 7 days following the evaluation).

### **Results**

657 patients were included, 152 women presented imminent preterm delivery (group A) and 505 were considered as controls (group B). No differences were found between the groups concerning maternal age, nulliparity, history of preterm delivery, history of smoking, and body mass index. Group A patients presented significantly lower values of cervical consistency index and cervical length compared to group B patients ( $p < 0.0001$ ). The cervical consistency index and cervical length showed an area value under the curve of 0.857 and 0.977, respectively. The difference in the ability to discriminate between the areas under the curve of each test was significant ( $p < 0.0001$ ).

### **Conclusion**

The cervical consistency index is not superior to the cervical length in the prediction of imminent preterm delivery in symptomatic patients.