



Arteriovenous Malformation of the Neck Presenting in Pregnancy

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Disclosure Information

The authors have nothing to disclose

Objectives of the presentation

- Background
- Case presentation
 - 26 yo multiparous w/ neck arteriovenous malformation at 34 wks
 - Antepartum
 - Intrapartum
 - Postpartum
- Conclusion
 - Lessons learned

Background

- Vascular malformations
 - High flow arteriovenous (AV), mixed arterial, or low flow venous, lymphatic or capillary
 - Tend to enlarge overtime
 - Increased morbidity
- AV malformation (AVM) clinical presentation
 - Vascular blush/staining/mottling; bleeding/ulceration; palpable thrill; disfigurement; cardiac failure
- AVM expansion
 - Hormonal changes, puberty, pregnancy

Case Presentation

Antepartum

- 26 yo Somali G6P5004 transferred at 34 0/7 wks for increasing dyspnea in the setting of enlarging R neck mass
- Pregnancy complications
 - Iron deficiency anemia status post RBC transfusion; pulmonary hypertension (HTN)
- Obstetrical History
 - NSVD x5 in Africa; 1 neonatal death at 1 month
- Past Medical History
 - Neck mass since 2011 (w/ 4th pregnancy)

Case Presentation

Antepartum

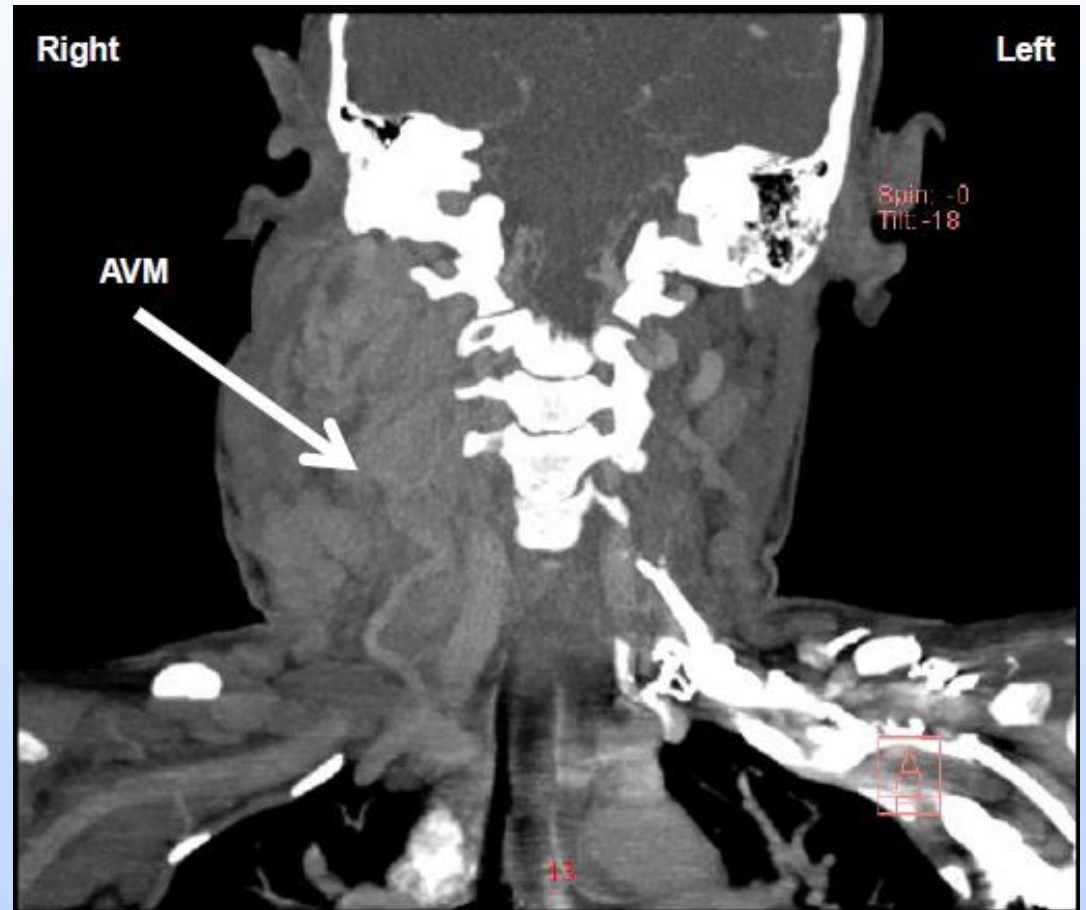
- Initial evaluation
 - SOB, dysphagia worsened w/ supine position
 - VS stable
 - PE of neck: engorged, tender to touch, palpable thrill
 - No acute OB issues
 - Formal US: singleton, normal growth, normal AFV, cephalic
 - MFM, Anesthesia, Vascular surgery, Radiology, Interventional radiology (IR), Cardiology, ENT, Pulmonary critical care teams



Case Presentation

Antepartum

- CT angiogram: extensive, infiltrative mass with abnormal vasculature involving R neck (10 x 10 x 12 cm)



Case Presentation

Antepartum

- ENT
 - Fiberoptic scope: upright: no airway obstruction; flat lie: airway diameter decreased but still patent
- Radiology
 - MRI lumbar spine/pelvis: no suspicious vasc lesions
- Cardiology
 - TTE: RVSP 58 mmHg (vs. 41 mmHg before)
 - Bubble study: positive → concern for pulmonary AVM
- Vascular surgery and IR
 - Not candidate for surgery; to evaluate postpartum
- MFM
 - Due to worsening clinical sx → IOL at 34 5/7 wks

Case Presentation

Intrapartum - Plan

- Immediately available in case of
 - AVM rupture: ENT, vascular surgery, IR
 - Airway compromise: anesthesia w/ video laryngoscope, fiberoptic scope, surgical airway equipment
 - OB emergency: perimortem cesarean delivery tray
- Continuous maternal monitoring
- IV filters
- Early lumbar epidural
- Fully upright at all times
- SBP goal <130 mmHg (use of esmolol boluses)

Case Presentation

Intrapartum

- IOL at 34 5/7 weeks
 - Duration: ~9 hours
- 1st stage
 - IV Oxytocin and AROM
- 2nd stage
 - Passive descent
 - FAVD to minimize maternal efforts (single pull)
 - Total of 350 mg of esmolol (bolus of 20 or 40 mg) for BP control
 - Female infant 2230 grams; Apgar's at 1' and 5': 7 and 8

Case Presentation

Intrapartum

- 3rd stage
 - Prophylactic uterotonic: misoprostol, oxytocin infusion
 - Initially no perineal lacerations
 - Following placenta delivery – increased bleeding
 - Uterine atony
 - Manual extraction of clots, uterine massage
 - Vulva: high velocity arterial bleeding from R vulvar area → suspected vulvar AVM
 - Hemostatic stitches, direct pressure
 - EBL 1000 mL; post-delivery Hgb 7.4
- PPD0: stable; transferred to ICU; IR notified

Case Presentation

Postpartum

- Postpartum/hospital course uncomplicated
 - No further bleeding from suspected vulvar AVM
 - Respiratory sx improved
 - Discharged home on PPD4
- Postpartum visit (~7 wks)
 - MRI pelvis: No uterine AVM
 - Contraception: Copper IUD
- Patient never returned for further follow-up

Conclusion

- Symptomatic neck AVMs
 - Very rare but significantly increase morbidity
- Vaginal delivery can be considered to carefully selected patients
- Multi-disciplinary team and a tertiary referral center needed
- Complete imaging of abdomen/pelvis and spine important antepartum
- Timing and mode of delivery must be individualized
 - Variable and unpredictable impact of pregnancy on AVM progression

Martines F et al., Acta Otorhinolaryngol Ital 2009; Bizakis JG et al., Auris Nasus Larynx 2002 ; Elliott JA, Rankin RN et al., Am J Obstet Gynecol 1985



Questions & Discussion