

The Risk of Subsequent Preterm Birth After Second Stage Cesarean Section

Arjumand Bano Qamaruddin, MD* Amal Hassani, CABOG, Mmed, MPHE** Mohammed Jamal Ibrahim, MD*** Safinaz Abdelrahman, MD* Sara Abdul Hussain Salman, MD*

ABSTRACT

Objective: Preterm birth is defined as delivery before 37 weeks of gestation, it has multiple risk factors on the mother and the baby. The aim of this study is to evaluate the risk of subsequent preterm birth (sPTB) after the second stage and compare it with caesarean section (CS) in the first stage and with normal vaginal delivery.

Method: A retrospective cohort study included 276 women with two consecutive deliveries in the period between January 2014 to December 2018, data collection was held in the department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in Salmaniya medical center.

Results: In this study, the mean age of the patients was 29.80 ± 5.44 years; the mean interval between the index and subsequent pregnancy was 2.48 ± 1.09 years. Subsequent 'preterm' births were found in 25 (9.06%) patients in total. Out of which, 8 had sPTB in women who had undergone first stage cesarean section while 10 had sPTB in women who underwent 2nd stage C-section. However, among 'normal' vaginal delivery group 7 females were observed to have sPTB (4.5%) $RR=1.74$, the subsequent preterm birth was found in 25 (9.06%) patients.

Conclusion: This study concluded that there is an increased risk of subsequent preterm birth (i.e. 1.74 times) among women who underwent second stage cesarean section.

Keywords: Labour, Subsequent Preterm Birth, Caesarean Section

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* Senior Resident
Obstetrics and gynecology Department
Salmaniya, Medical Complex
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.
E-mail: Dr.Bano88@gmail.com

** Consultant Obstetric and Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department

*** General Practitioner
Ministry of Interior
Manama, Kingdom of Bahrain.