



Secondary Post-Abortion Hemorrhage due to Retained Products of Conception Managed with Uterine Artery Embolization

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Abstract

Secondary post-abortion hemorrhage is a significant cause of maternal morbidity and is commonly associated with retained products of conception (RPOC) or placental site subinvolution. We report the case of a 32-year-old woman presenting with persistent vaginal bleeding following medical termination of pregnancy at 8 weeks. Imaging revealed hypervascular retained products of conception. Given the high risk of hemorrhage with curettage, bilateral uterine artery embolization was performed successfully, resulting in prompt control of bleeding and preservation of fertility.

Introduction

Secondary post-abortion hemorrhage occurs between 24 hours and 6 weeks following abortion and is commonly caused by retained products of conception, infection, or placental site subinvolution.

Case Presentation

A 32-year-old P1L1 woman presented with persistent vaginal bleeding following medical termination of pregnancy. Clinical examination was unremarkable, and the patient was hemodynamically stable.

Investigations

Ultrasound pelvis showed thickened endometrium with echogenic contents. MRI pelvis demonstrated a heterogeneously enhancing hypervascular intrauterine lesion suggestive of retained products of conception.

Management

In view of hypervascularity and risk of hemorrhage, bilateral uterine artery embolization

using gelfoam and polyvinyl alcohol particles was performed.

Outcome

Post-procedure bleeding reduced significantly, and the patient was discharged in stable condition.

Conclusion

Uterine artery embolization is a safe and effective fertility-preserving option in selected cases of secondary post-abortal hemorrhage.

