

COVID-19 in Third Trimester may not be as Scary as you Think, it can be Innocent: Evaluating Vertical Transmission from a COVID-19 Positive Asymptomatic Pregnant Woman with Early Membrane Rupture

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ABSTRACT

In the literature, many cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) positive pregnancies have been observed, mostly with mild findings, but there is limited evidence about perinatal transition and early COVID-19 positive newborns.

In this case, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction results were studied from samples obtained from the placenta, amniotic fluid, cord blood and postoperative breast milk-that were obtained while avoiding contamination and preserved appropriately-of a cesarean section performed under anesthesia on a woman with previous cesarean section and gestational diabetes mellitus history. This patient who presented to our emergency gynecology clinic with membrane rupture was infected with severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 two weeks before delivery but was not treated as the disease was asymptomatic. In addition, literature data in line with this topic were evaluated to demonstrate that there was generally no perinatal transmission over 34 weeks of gestation.

The case presented in this report is one of the rare cases where cord blood, amniotic fluid, placenta and breast milk samples were obtained and studied together. In our case, the infant had no clinical, radiological, hematological or biochemical evidence of SARS-CoV-2, indicating that SARS-CoV-2 does not cause perinatal complications in the third trimester and especially after 34 weeks of gestation, and there is no vertical transmission. Further studies should be conducted in the first and second trimesters to find out possible perinatal transmission.

Keywords: Perinatal transition, Gestation, COVID-19

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