

COMPLICATIONS OF THE FOLLICULAR PUNCTURE

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Introduction: Follicular puncture is a safe surgery process with uncommon but exceptionally important complications. The most important are haemorrhages, injury of nearby organs, and those derived from the increase of the ovaries or from the manipulation of the genital tract, like ovarian torsion and infection complications. Besides we need to have in account the anaesthesia risks.

Material and Method: We have evaluated the complications of the follicular punctures occurred in the first 1,000 punctures in our Unit, from February-2007 until January-2010.

Results: The total complications were 34 (3.4%). The most frequent were the vaginal (16 cases, 1.6%) or intraperitoneal (10 cases, 1.0%) haemorrhages. In one case of intraperitoneal haemorrhage was needed an exploratory laparotomy, and in other case was necessary a blood transfusion although without surgery.

There were 4 punctures in the bladder (0.4%), and 2 in the iliac vessels (0.2%). Fortunately in all the cases, the gynaecologist realized in time and the punctures were clean, so surgery wasn't needed.

There was a case of ovarian torsion (0.1%) that improved with conservative management. We hadn't any infection case.

There were an important anaesthesia complication (0.1%) because an aspiration syndrome of gastric fluids. The woman was in the ICU during two days but she recovered well and the embryo transfer was possible.

Conclusions: Important complications are not frequent in follicular puncture. Those who needed of important interventions were less than 1%. It is important to discover the complications as soon as possible to prevent them become more serious.