Plasma exchange in Acute Poliradiculoneuritis during pregnancy

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Acute Poliradiculoneuritis (AP) is an autoimmune demyelinating neuropathy with an incidence 1-3 cases per 10000 people in the general population. It is rare in pregnancy and can occur during all trimesters of pregnancy and in the post partum period. Plasma exchange (PE) and intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) administration have been shown to have equal efficacy in reducing the progression and severity of disease. We report 2 cases of pregnant females, diagnosed with AP and treated with PE. Case 1: 24 years old, Gravida 2 Para 1, 18 weeks of gestational age, twin pregnancy, She presents 10 days history with all features of flaccid tetraparesis, with grade 2 power in lower limbs and grade 4 power in upper limbs. Case 2: 28 years old, Gravida 2 Para 1, 12 weeks of gestational age. She presents 4 days history of flaccid tetraparesis with grade 3 power in lower limbs and grade 4 power in upper limbs PE was done for both on alternate days, with a total of three sessions. The first patient was taken up for Cesarean Section , the second one gave birth naturally, both with no problems during post partum period One year after the hospital discharge were seen no neurological deficits. Discussion: Acute Polyradiculoneuritis is a rare pathology during pregnancy. The higher incidence is during the third trimester of pregnancy and 2 weeks post partum. In 20% of patients persist the neurological deficits one year after diagnosed and maternal mortality is 7% (compared with non pregnant patients - 4%). Conclusion: Plasma change during pregnancy is a safe procedure for the mother and the fetus, and decreases the risk of maternal mortality and disability.