

Role of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in diagnosis of placental lesions

Essay

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radiodiagnosis*

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List of Contents

Title	Page
• List of Abbreviations -----	I
• List of Tables -----	III
• List of Figures -----	IV
• Introduction and Aim of the Work -----	1
• Review of Literature:	
✓ Chapter 1: Anatomical background of placenta --	5
✓ Chapter 2 : Pathology of the placenta -----	19
✓ Chapter 3 : MRI imaging of placental lesions ----	50
• Summary and conclusion -----	84
• References -----	87
• Arabic summary -----	104

List of abbreviations

2D	Two dimensional
ADC	Apparent diffusion coefficient
CLSM	confocal laser scanning microscope
CMV	Cytomegalovirus
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DVI	Distal villous immaturity
DWI	Diffusion-weighted imaging
EPI	Echo planar image
FGR	fetal growth restriction
FISP	Fast imaging steady-state precession
FLASH	Fast low angle shot
FSE	fast spin echo
FTV	Fetal thrombotic vasculopathy
GD	Gadolinium
GTD	Gestational trophoblastic disease
GW	Gestational week
H&E	Hematoxylin and eosin
HASTE	half-Fourier single-shot turbo spin-echo
HSV	Herpes Simplex Virus
IL	Interleukin
IUFD	Intrauterine fetal death
IUGR	Intrauterine growth restriction
IUO	Internal uterine os
IVF	In vitro fertilisation
MRI	magnetic resonance imaging

NRBC	nucleated red blood cells
P	Placenta
PA	Placenta accrete
PE	Preeclampsia
PECAM	Platelet Endothelial Cell Adhesion Molecule
PGF, PLGF	Placental growth factor
Rh	Rhesus factor
RPOC	Retained Products of Conception
SCH	subchorionic hematoma
SE	spin echo
SSFP	Steady state free precession
SSFSE	Single shot fast spin echo
STIR	Short T1 inversion recovery
T	Tesla
T1	Spin lattice relaxation time
T1W	T1 weighted
T2	Spin spin relaxation time
T2W	T2-weighted
US	Ultrasound
USG	Ultrasonography
VEGF	vascular endothelial growth factor
VZV	Varicella-zoster virus
β-HCG	β-human chorionic gonadotropin

List of Tables

Table No.	Subject	Page
1	Placental villi development by data microscope study	10
2	Detailed morphometric indices at term of placental composition	15
3	Variant Placental Morphology	20
4	Classification of placental hemorrhage	24
5	Classification of placenta accrete	27

List of Figures

Figure No.	Subject	Page
1	Anatomy of a normal placenta	4
2	Sectional plan of the gravid uterus in the third and fourth month	6
3	Decidua basalis: beneath implanted blastocyst, forming maternal component of placenta	9
4	Diagrammatic chorionic villi	13
5	Scheme of placental circulation	14
6	Succenturiate placenta	18
7	Bilobed placenta	18
8	Placenta membranacea	19
9	Circumvallate placenta	20
10	Variant Placental Morphology	20
11	Abruptio placenta	22
12	Placenta accreta classification	26
13	Site of placental pathologies	30
14	Types of placenta previa	31
15	Vasa previa	33
16	Typical spatial relation between villous trees and maternal bloodstream	41
17	Hydatidiform mole	43
18	Hematoma locations	48

List of Figures

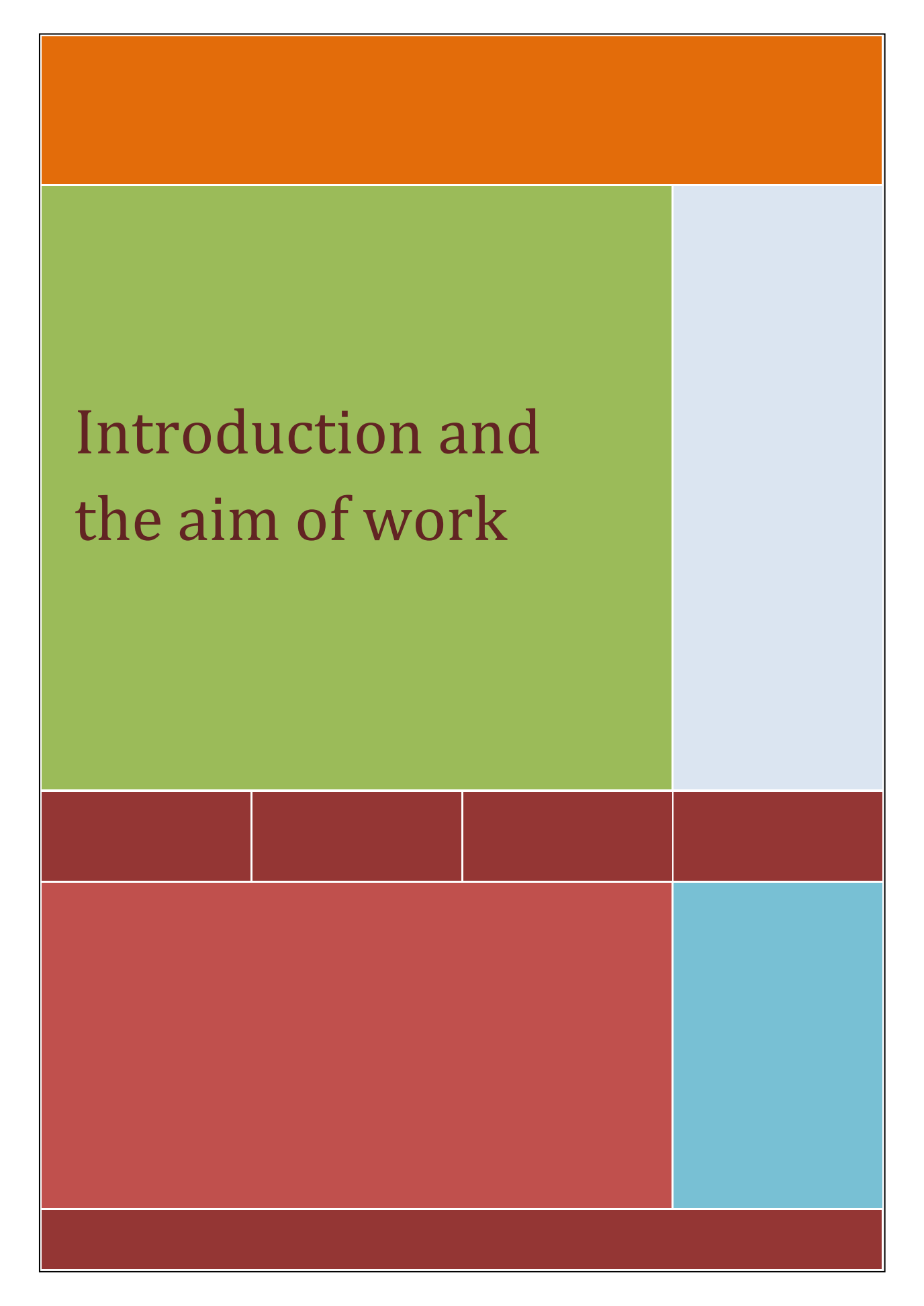
19	MRI Normal placenta	54
20	MRI normal placentation at different gestational ages.	54
21	MRI Normal mature placenta at 37 weeks of gestation show a mildly heterogeneous placenta with normal placental septi and triple-layered appearance of normal myometrium	55
22	MRI Complete placenta previa show normal stratification of placenta (+) into lobules with a smooth continuous curved myometrial interface and layered appearance of myometrium	56
23	MRI Partial placenta previa show a homogeneous placenta (+) with smooth distinct placenta–myometrium interphase and triple-layered appearance of normal myometrium.	56
24	MRI normal trilaminar myometrial architecture	57
25	MRI normal trilaminar myometrial architecture and mild focal thinning of placenta at the site of compression of myometrium in front of aorta	57
26	MRI normal placentation posteriorly at the upper segment of uterus.	58
27	MRI scans of the placenta with and without contrast	59
28	IUGR ADC map	61
29	IUGR detected with diffusion-weighted imaging with ADC map	61
30	MRI Succenturiate Placenta	62

List of Figures

31	MRI Bilobed Placenta	62
32	MRI Cicumvallate Placenta	62
33	MRI Placental abruption in a heparinised patient being treated for deep venous thrombosis show a fluid collection of slightly low signal intensity consistent with hematoma	65
34	MR imaging findings of placental abruption	65
35	MRI Low-lying anterior placenta percreta	67
36	MRI Complete placenta previa and increta	68
37	MRI Complete placenta previa and accreta vera	69
38	MRI placenta previa and placenta accreta	70
39	MRI placenta previa and placenta increta	71
40	MRI placenta previa and placenta percreta	72
41	MRI placenta previa	74
42	MRI Complete placenta previa	75
43	MRI Intervillous thrombi and Subchorionic thrombi	76
44	MRI Chorioangioma	77
45	MRI Placental Infarction (multiple ischemic lesions)	78
46	MRI Hydatidiform mole	79
47	MRI Invasive mole	80

List of Figures

48	MRI Choriocarcinoma	81
49	MRI Placental hematoma	82
50	MRI IUGR at GW 22+2 with oedematous thickened placenta	83

The image features a complex geometric layout with several colored rectangular blocks. At the top is a solid orange block. Below it, the page is divided into two main vertical sections. The left section has a large green block containing the text 'Introduction and the aim of work'. To the right of the green block is a light blue block. Below the green block is a row of four small dark red blocks. Underneath these is a large red block on the left and a light blue block on the right. At the very bottom is a solid dark red block.

Introduction and the aim of work

INTRODUCTION

The placenta is often overlooked in the routine evaluation of a normal gestation, receiving attention only when an abnormality is detected (*Elsayes et al., 2009*).

Although uncommon, abnormalities of the placenta are important to recognize owing to the potential for maternal and fetal morbidity and mortality (*Elsayes et al., 2009*).

Pathological conditions of the placenta include placental causes of hemorrhage, gestational trophoblastic disease (GTD), retained products of conception, non trophoblastic placental tumors, metastases and cystic lesions (*Elsayes et al., 2009*).

The vast majority of placenta accreta are found in women presenting with a previous history of caesarean section and a placenta praevia. Recent epidemiological studies have also found that the strongest risk factor for placenta praevia is a prior caesarean section (*Jauniaux & Jurkovic, 2012*).

The consequence of placenta accreta is massive hemorrhage at the time of placental separation and complications of blood loss. Hysterectomy is usually required, leading to complications like adjacent organ injuries and serious co-morbidities (*Varghese et al., 2013*).

Imaging in the antepartum period should be performed with minimal risk to both the mother and developing fetus. As a result, noninvasive techniques such as U/S and MRI that do not use ionizing radiation are preferred (*Abramowicz and Sheiner, 2007*).

There has been an increase in the use of fetal magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in the last 20 years. Although ultrasound is and possibly will remain the main tool for

obstetrical imaging, MRI is creating a niche in the areas where ultrasound does not provide complete details or as a second opinion tool to confirm equivocal ultrasonographic findings (*Gudmundsson et al., 2009*).

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) may be useful in detecting placental tissue invasion and evaluating the degree of invasion, especially in a posterior or lateral placenta previa or when there is invasion into the bladder (*Comstock et al., 2004*).

Magnetic resonance imaging can be of added diagnostic value when further characterization is required, particularly in the setting of invasive placental processes such as placenta accreta and gestational trophoblastic disease (*Elsayes et al., 2009*).

Dynamic contrast material-enhanced MR imaging allows clear differentiation between the intensely enhancing placenta and weakly enhancing myometrium and may be of benefit in the diagnosis of placental abnormalities (*Tanaka et al., 2001*).

Aim of the work

The aim of this work is to highlight the role of magnetic resonance imaging in diagnosis of different placental lesions .