

COMPARISON OF FOLEY CATHETER AND DILAPAN FOR CERVICAL PREPARATION BEFORE SECOND TRIMESTER ABORTION

THESIS

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In Obstetrics & Gynecology

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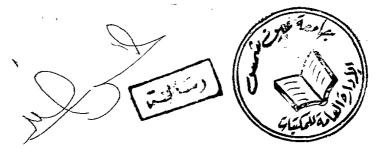
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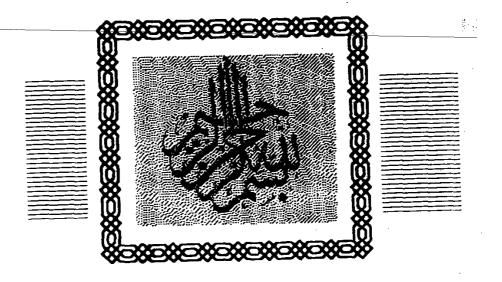
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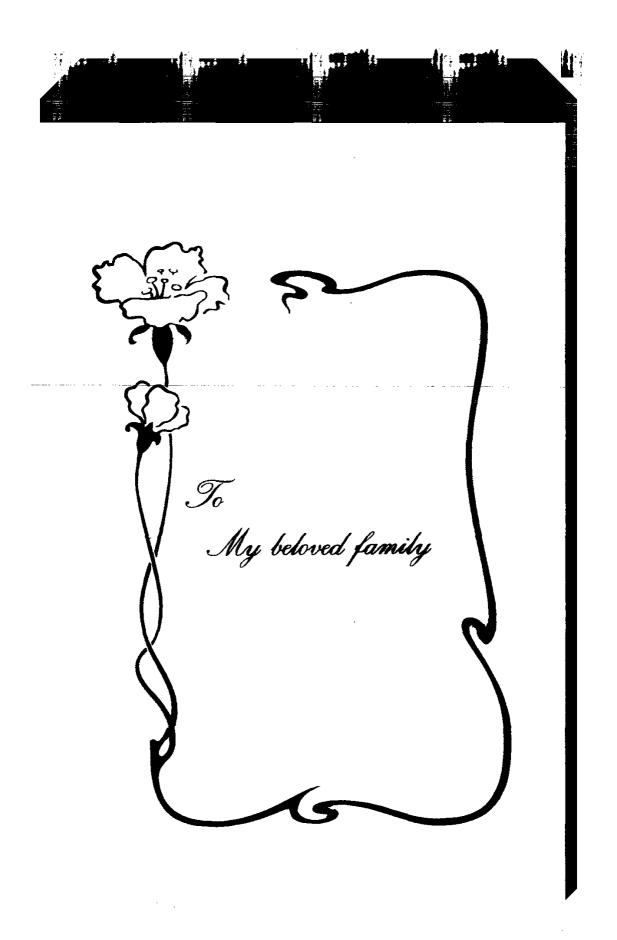
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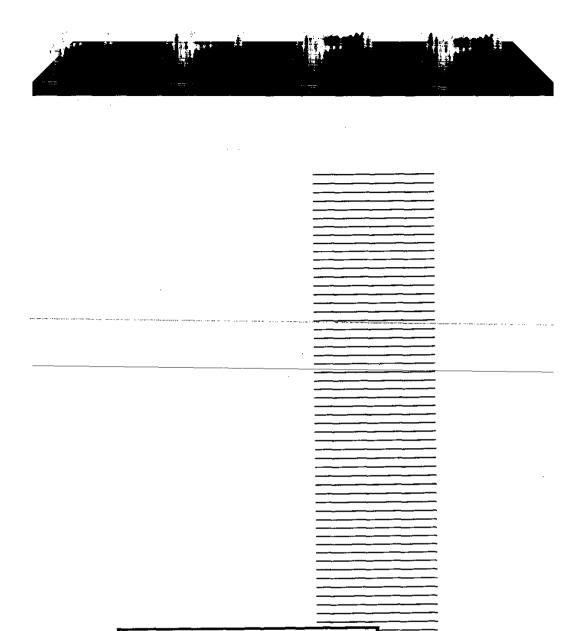
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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Abortion is the termination of pregnancy by any mean before the fetus is sufficiently developed to survive (Cunningham et al., 1993).

Although most gynaecologists limit the use of vaginal termination to first-trimester pregnancy, some have successfully employed vaginal termination in the use management of second trimester pregnancies (Howie, 1995).

Dilation and evacuation is the procedure of choice for pregnancy termination in gestational ages 12 to 16 weeks (Grimes et al., 1980).

A persistent problem with midtrimester dilation and evacuation is the need for a moderate degree of forceful cervical dilation to facilitate the removal of the larger parts of the products of conception, such mechanical dilation of the cervix has been associated with immediate tissue damage such as cervical laceration, creation of false passages, and uterine perforation. There are also potential long-term effects from dilation and evacuation such as cervical incompetence, premature delivery, and spontaneous abortion. Various methods of ripening the cervix by the induction of gradual softening and dilation have been used in an attempt to reduce these risks (Ellen et al., 1989).

The use of prostaglandins and their analogues, laminaria tents, balloon catheters and lamicel all have been investigated (Hackett et al., 1989).

The recent introduction of a synthetic osmotic dilator, Dilapan (Gynotech industries, Middlesex, N.J) offers the alternative of

Introduction

using a manufactured, highly controlled material with predictable response (Warren and Hern, 1994).

The Foley catheter has been shown to be effective in ripening the cervix and even comparable to prostaglandin E2 for improving the cervical score (James et al., 1994).



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Aim of the Work

AIM OF THE WORK

The aim of this work is to compare the efficacy of Foley catheter and Dilapan in cervical ripening before dilation and evacuation of second trimester abortion.

