

# **ANESTHETIC MANAGEMENT OF FETAL SURGERIES**

*Essay*

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Master Degree in **Anesthesia**

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# إستراتيجيات التخدير في جراحات الأجنة

## رسالة

توطئة للحصول على درجة الماجستير في التخدير

## مقدمة من

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# ***Introduction***

Surgery to the fetus while it is still in utero is used to treat an increasing number of lethal and non-lethal conditions.

The problems of preterm labour and premature rupture of membrane associated with open surgery have led to the development of minimal access surgical techniques. Although fetal surgery is a new and fast moving frontier of medicine, it is not one that all obstetric anesthetists will encounter (*Jeffrey L et al., 2008*)

The most frequently occurring condition operated on relatively commonly in the UK is twin-to-twin transfusion syndrome (*Laura B. Myers et al., 2002*).

Life-threatening conditions that have had in utero intervention to lessen the severity of pathology include congenital diaphragmatic hernia, obstructive uropathy, and sacrococcygeal teratoma (*Ritu Gupta et al., 2008*).

Types of fetal surgeries could be : open fetal, exutero intrapartum or fetoscopic.

The broad challenges present anesthesiologist are: Those related to any anesthetic in a pregnant woman , techniques used to prevent preterm labour,

maintenance of maternal homeostasis in the face of tocolytic techniques, maintenance of fetal homeostasis and provision of fetal analgesia during surgery (*Marc van de velde .,2010*).



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## الملخص العربي

إن الجمع بين العيوب و التشوهات الخلقية التي قد تهدد الحياة تضع الجنين غالبا في خطر كبير .

إن تعرض الجنين للجراحة و التخدير يؤدي إلى مخاطر كبيرة من الإصابة بالأمراض أو موت الجنين .

تتكيف وظائف الأم الحامل مع التغيرات الفسيولوجية و التشريحية للحمل لذلك من المهم على طبيب التخدير أن يشترك في عناية المرأة الحامل حتى يفهم هذه التغيرات مما يوفر التخدير الآمن للأم و المرتبط بالتالي بالولادة الآمنة .

الدورة الدموية الطبيعية في المشيمة و الرحم مهمة للحفاظ على نمو الجنين بصحة جيدة و استمرارية هذه الدورة تعتمد على تدفق الدم للرحم و عمل المشيمة بصورة طبيعية .

الدورة الدموية للجنين تتميز بارتفاع مقاومة الأوعية الدموية الرئوية و انخفاض مقاومة الأوعية الدموية للجسم وتتميز أيضا بتحويل مسار الدم في القلب من اليمين إلى اليسار عن طريق الثقب الببضاوي .

يمكن تقسيم جراحة الأجنة إلى ثلاث مجموعات متميزة :

- جراحة الأجنة المفتوحة
  - جراحة الأجنة خارج الرحم أثناء الولادة
  - جراحة الأجنة بالمنظار
- تستخدم جراحات المنظار كثيرا في تقييم و علاج متلازمة نقل الدم من التوأم إلى التوأم و حالات الانسداد البولي .
- إن جراحة الأجنة خارج الرحم هي عمليات غير شائعة تتم في حالات انسداد المجرى الهوائي للجنين بعد الولادة مما يعرض حياته للخطر .

فتح الرحم يكون مطلوباً للوصول إلى الجنين الذي يتم إعادته لاحقاً إلى الرحم بعد الإنتهاء من العملية الجراحية لإكمال بقية فترة الحمل و يتم إجراء جراحة الجنين عن طريق شق جراحي في البطن منخفض و بالعرض.

حالات جراحات الأجنة تتطلب العمل الجماعي حيث تشمل تخصصات الجراحة العامة للأطفال، النساء و الولادة وتخصص تخدير الأطفال و تخدير الولادة و أمراض القلب و الأشعة و حديثي الولادة وتمريض حديثي الولادة و تمريض غرفة العمليات.

## *Abbreviations*

<b>°C</b>	: Degree Celsius
<b>B-2</b>	: Beta 2
<b>BP</b>	: Blood pressure
<b>CCAM</b>	: Congenital cystic adenomatoid malformation
<b>CDH</b>	: Congenital diaphragmatic hernia
<b>CHAOS</b>	: Congenital high airway obstruction syndrome obstruction syndrome (CHAOS).
<b>CSF</b>	: Cerebral spinal fluid
<b>CNS</b>	: Central nervous system
<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	: Carbon dioxide
<b>CVR</b>	: CCAM volume ratio
<b>DNA</b>	: Deoxy ribonucleic acid
<b>ECG</b>	: Electro-cardiograph
<b>EX</b>	: Example
<b>EXIT</b>	: The ex utero intrapartum treatment
<b>FETENDO</b>	: Fetal endoscopy
<b>FETO</b>	: Fetoscopic Endoluminal Tracheal Occlusion
<b>Fig</b>	: Figure
<b>FRC</b>	: Functional residual capacity
<b>GA</b>	: Gestational age
<b>GA</b>	: General anesthesia
<b>IM</b>	: Intramuscular
<b>IQ</b>	: Intelligence quotient
<b>IUFD</b>	: Intrauterine fetal demise
<b>IV</b>	: Intravenous
<b>Kg</b>	: Kilogram
<b>LHR</b>	: Lung to head ratio
<b>MAC</b>	: Minimum alveolar concentration

### ❧Abbreviations (Cont.)❧

<b>Mg</b>	: Milligram
<b>MMC</b>	: Myelomeningocele
<b>mmHg</b>	: Millimeter mercury
<b>MRI</b>	: Magnetic resonance imaging
<b>N2O</b>	: Nitrous oxide
<b>Nd: YAG</b>	: Neodymium YAG laser fiber
<b>NPO</b>	: Nothing per oral
<b>NSAIDs</b>	: Non steroidal anti-inflammatory agents
<b>OOPS</b>	: Operations on placental support
<b>OR</b>	: Operation room
<b>PO</b>	: Per oral
<b>PPROM</b>	: Preterm premature rupture of the membranes
<b>PROM</b>	: Premature rupture of membranes
<b>SCT</b>	: Sacrococcygeal teratoma
<b>SIDS</b>	: Sudden infant death syndrome
<b>TRAP</b>	: Twin reversed arterial perfusion
<b>TTTS</b>	: Twin-twin transfusion syndrome
<b>UBF</b>	: Uterine blood flow
<b>US</b>	: Ultrasound
<b>UK</b>	: United kingdom
<b>Vs</b>	: Versus

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## **Aim of essay**

This essay discuss the anesthetic precautions and management for both the fetus and the mother during fetal surgery

The combination of underdeveloped organ function and usually life-threatening congenital malformation in addition to type of surgery and anesthetic technique places the fetus at a considerable risk that can result in fetal death and morbidity. For example, altered coagulation factors predispose the fetus to bleeding and cause difficulty in achieving surgical homeostasis during fetal surgery. This problem is compounded by the small blood volume of the fetus that makes it fetal to the fetus. Fetal surgery can result in premature labor and birth due to such complications. Also, surgeries were only performed in cases of impending fetal death, with the advancements in anesthetic and surgical techniques, the risks have decreased and the indications broadened (*Kirti N Saxena.,2009*).

Fetal surgery also leads to enhanced surgical and anesthetic risk for the mother including hemorrhage, infection, airway difficulties and amniotic fluid embolism. Only ASA class I and II mothers with very sick fetuses are taken up for fetal surgery. For example fetal sacrococcygeal tumor leads to the ‘maternal mirror syndrome’, where in the mother experiences progressive symptoms of preeclampsia due to release of toxins from the placenta. This syndrome is terminated by delivery of the fetus and placenta but not by the excision of the tumor (*Kirti N Saxena.,2009*).

So maternal and fetal physiological aspect should be considered and respected in order to pass a successful surgery.

### **(I)Maternal physiological and anesthetic consideration:**

Normal pregnancy involves major physiological and anatomical adaptation by maternal organs. It is important that anesthetists involved in the care of the pregnant woman to understand these changes, to provide safe maternal anesthetic care which is compatible with safe delivery of the baby (*Duvekot et al., 2009*).

Pregnancy affects virtually every organ system. Many of these physiological changes appear to be adaptive and useful to the mother in tolerating the stresses of pregnancy, labor and delivery (*Morgan et al., 2006*).

Regional anesthesia is usually the technique of choice for obstetric anesthetic practice. But, because the uterine relaxation required for hysterotomy based fetal surgery is best provided by high concentration potent volatile agents, general anesthesia is the technique of choice for fetal surgery and this a still point of debate till now (*Duvekot et al., 2009*).

The maternal physiologic changes during pregnancy contribute to increased anesthetic risk for both the mother and fetus.

#### **1) Cardiovascular changes:**

Pregnancy is a hyperdynamic state in which cardiac output increases 30 % to 50% from 4 L to 6 L/min, particularly during the first two trimesters (*Yeomans and Gilstrap, 2008*).

This increase is primarily a result of a 20% to 50% increase in stroke volume. Estrogen-mediated increases in myocardial alpha-receptors results in an increase in heart rate of 10 to 20 beats/min Cardiac output begins to rise gradually at 8 to 10 weeks' gestation and peaks