

Seeing beyond obstetrics: Interventional radiology in the management of orbital lymphangioma during pregnancy

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Orbital lymphangiomas are rare congenital vascular malformations with limited systemic connection, often presenting with intralesional haemorrhage and sudden vision loss. Their occurrence in pregnancy is exceptionally rare, complicating management due to fetal safety considerations and contraindications to first-line treatments such as sclerotherapy. **Case Description:** We report a case of a pregnant woman who presented with progressive right eye proptosis, later diagnosed with a haemorrhagic venolymphatic orbital malformation. MRI confirmed a fluid-fluid level lesion with mass effect and no intracranial extension. Within days, the patient developed high intraocular pressure and loss of vision due to central retinal artery occlusion. An urgent multidisciplinary team meeting (MFM, IR, Ophthalmology and Anaesthesia) was convened. Due to the contraindication of intralesional bleomycin in pregnancy, the patient underwent interventional radiology-guided intraorbital embolisation using gel foam and aspiration of haemorrhagic content with fetal monitoring and radiation shielding. The procedure was uneventful and resulted in stabilisation of the lesion. The pregnancy was successfully prolonged, and an elective lower segment caesarean section (LSCS) with intrauterine contraceptive device (IUCD) insertion was performed at 37 weeks due to breech. **Discussion:** This is among the first reported cases where IR was safely employed in the antenatal management of orbital lymphangioma in pregnancy. It underscores the critical importance of timely multidisciplinary discussion and planning in the management of complex non-obstetric pathologies during pregnancy, ensuring both maternal and fetal safety.