

14. INFECTIOUS COMPLICATIONS AFTER CAESAREAN DELIVERY



Author: Zuico Maria

Scientific advisor: Catrinici Rodica, MD, Associate Professor, Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Human Reproduction Discipline, Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department, *Nicolae Testemitanu* State University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova.

Introduction. Cesarean delivery, also known as a C-section, is characterized by the delivery of a fetus through surgical incisions performed on both the abdominal wall (laparotomy) and the uterine wall (hysterotomy). Cesarean birth is crucial in some cases, but for most low-risk pregnancies, it poses a higher risk of morbidity and mortality compared to vaginal birth. Infections are a common complication following cesarean delivery. Puerperal infection refers to an infection in the genital tract, occurring during any stage of labor and extending up to the 42nd day postpartum, marked by two or more of these symptoms: incision pain, fever, purulent lochia, chills, and uterine subinvolution.

Aim of study. Analysis of aspects of etiology, diagnosis, treatment and impact of puerperal infections.

Methods and materials. Data from relevant articles from databases such as: NCBI, PubMed, Medscape, Oxford Academic were analyzed.

Results. The global caesarean section rate, as reported by the World Health Organization, is on the rise and now represents more than 1 in 5 (21%) of all births. In the Republic of Moldova, over the past decade, the incidence of cesarean section procedures has risen from 14.3% in 2010 to 19.7% in 2020. Despite its benefits, a caesarean section can be complicated by serious issues. The incidence of short-term complications following cesarean delivery includes: ileus (10-20%), endometritis (6-11%), wound complications (1-2%), massive hemorrhages (2-4%), surgical injuries (0.2-0.5%), and thromboembolism (240 per 100,000 births). Pre-existing maternal conditions such as malnutrition, diabetes, obesity, severe anemia, bacterial vaginosis, and group B streptococcal infections, along with factors like prolonged rupture of membranes, multiple vaginal examinations, manual placental removal, as well as cesarean section, were identified as significant contributors to puerperal infection. Successful management of puerperal and postpartum infections post-caesarean section necessitates a multidisciplinary approach that involves antimicrobial therapy, wound care, and abscess drainage

Conclusion. Accurate identification of risk factors and appropriate determination of indications for a caesarean section are pivotal for effective patient management in the postpartum period and for lowering the incidence of infectious complications