

TIBALDI CRISTINA

Primary Cytomegalovirus infection during pregnancy: fetal-neonatal risks.

Experices from Infectiuos Diseases Unit of Department Obstetric and Neonatology ASO OIRM S.Anna Torino.

ABSTRACT

Background: Cytomegalovirus (CMV) is an herpes virus and it is the most common cause of congenital infection in developed countries.

Objective: Analyze data on cases of primary CMV infection during pregnancy of Infectious Diseases Department-Obestric and Gynecologist Unit ASO OIRM S. Anna (Regional Reference Center).

Materials and methods: during the period January 1, 2007 - July 30, 2010 among the 141 cases of the Department with suspicious CMV infection during pregnancy, 37 had a primary ascertained infection, 25 took part in the study. For each of them, socio-demographic and clinical indicators of mothers, results of pregnancy and neonatal follow-up were analyzed.

Results: 2 women decided to abort. Among the 23 newborn, 12 (52.2%) were infected, 11 (47.8%) were not infected. All the infected newborns were asymptomatic at the birth. 4 babies (17%) presented, in the following months, symptoms that could be related to the congenital infection by cytomegalovirus: 1 petechiae, 1 sight mental retardation, 2 with a monolateral hearing loss.

Conclusions: The cases of ascertained primary infection during pregnancy should receive an integrated assistance with a multidisciplinary approach in appropriate centres. Since there is no efficacious therapy, it is necessary that women are informed about hygienic-behavioral standards to follow to reduce the risk of CMV infection.

In this precautionary task, midwives have a primary role.