GLUCOSE INTOLERANCE IN PREGNANT WOMEN WITH BAD OBSTETRIC HISTORY

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It is well known that abnormal glucose tolerance in pregnant women has an adverse effect on progeny. Therefore, an assessment of glucose tolerance in all pregnant women with bad obstetric history is being carried out at the Pregnancy Diabetic Services of the Department of Diabetology, Madras Medical College and Govt. General Hospital, Madras at the Govt. Hospital for Women and Children, Madras.

All pregnant women with BOH were subjected to a 140 G Oral Glucose Tolerance Test (OGTT) after O'Sullivan and Mahan soon after the first visit. The outcome of the study in the first one hundred women in whom other known causes of foetal wastage had been excluded is presented.

Of the 100 women studied, only 30 had normal glucose tolerance. Among the remaining 70 with abnormal Glucose tolerance, Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) was recognised in 32 and Impaired Gestational Glucose Tolerance in 26. The remaining 12 had one abnormal blood glucose value of the OGTT.

In women with abnormal glucose tolerance during present pregnancy, 79.4% of previous pregnancies had ended either in abortion or in perinatal mortality.

The incidence of embryopathy and foetopathy in women with IGT and in those with even single abnormal blood glucose value on OGTT is considerable.

It is concluded that any deviation of glucose tolerance from the normal values during pregnancy is associated with an increased foetal risk and therefore all pregnant women with previous BOH must be subjected as a routine to an OGTT.

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