Laparoscopic management of an adnexal mass during the second trimester of pregnancy

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Abstract
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One of the gynaecological indications for this type of surgery is the presence of an ovarian mass with malignant potential in an otherwise asymptomatic pregnant patient.

Elective surgery during pregnancy is usually performed during the second trimester. If possible, deferring surgery to this trimester allows for the period of relatively high miscarriage rate to pass.

During the second trimester, in the absence of a definitive diagnosis and the possibility of non-benign pathology, the decision whether to perform a laparotomy or a laparoscopic procedure is controversial.

However, if laparoscopy is contemplated the enlarging uterine mass may pose significant risks to the patient and the developing fetus.

Prior to embarking on the procedure consultation with gynaec oncology is advisable and discussion with the patient with respect to the definitive approach, possible complications and diagnosis should be mandatory.

This presentation describes the management of such a case in a 24 yr old woman in her second pregnancy with an adnexal mass identified during the first trimester dating scan. Following consultation with the gynaec oncologists a salpingoophrectomy was scheduled during the second trimester. The included video demonstrates the laparoscopic procedure resulting in the removal of the enlarged ovary located within the Pouch of Douglas.

In addition, a review of the literature with respect to laparoscopy during pregnancy is included.

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